Daily Report

Soviet Union

FBIS-SOV-89-004
Friday
6 January 1989

Daily Report
Soviet Union

FBIS-SOV-89-004 *6 January 1989*

CONTENTS

NOTICE TO READERS: An * indicates material not disseminated in electronic form.

ARMS CONTROL & DISARMAMENT

CW Conference To Begin in Paris 7 January 1
'Urgent Task' *[Molov in KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 5 Jan]* 1
Chemical Troops Officer Quoted *[TASS]* 2
France's Dumas Quoted *[IZVESTIYA 6 Jan]* 2

COMMUNIST RELATIONS

CEMA Secretary Sychev Interviewed *[Sofia RABOTNICHESKO DELO 4 Jan]* 4

WORLDWIDE ISSUES

Ministry of Foreign Affairs News Briefing 5 Jan 6
Gerasimov on Libyan Planes, Vienna *[TASS]* 6
Shevardnadze To Head Paris CW Delegation *[Moscow Radio]* 6
UN Security Council Discusses U.S.-Libyan Incident *[TASS]* 6
U.S. 'Accusations' Denied *[TASS]* 6
U.S.-Libyan Incident May Undermine Peace Efforts *[Zlatorunskiy on Moscow International]* 7
Gorbachev Named 1988 'Man of The Year' *[TASS]* 7
Officials Comment on Cooperative Movement *[TASS]* 8

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

United States & Canada

Further Reaction to Libyan MiG Downing Reported 9
'Dangerous Recurrence' of 'Gun Law' *[Gan in PRAVDA 5 Jan]* 9
Reagan Approves of Shooting *[TASS]* 9
Paper Deplores 'Gunboat Diplomacy' *[Geyvandov in IZVESTIYA 6 Jan]* 9
Downing 'Flouts International Law' *[IZVESTIYA 6 Jan]* 10
Termed 'Murder in Cold Blood' *[Pogodin on Moscow International]* 11
'Act of Lawlessness' Committed *[Biryukov on TASS]* 11
Commentator on 'Power Politics' *[Rostov on Moscow TV]* 12
U.S. Decides To Attend Human Rights Conferences *[TASS]* 12

Northeast Asia

Mongolian Party Academic on 'Historical Truth' *[SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA 3 Jan]* 12
Mongolian Minister Visits, Meets With Rogachev *[Ulaanbaatar International]* 13

Southeast Asia & Pacific

Vietnamese Troops To Withdraw by September 1989 *[TASS]* 13
Biryukova, State Delegation Leave for Cambodia *[IZVESTIYA 6 Jan]* 14
Philippines Ambassador Notes Improving Relations *[TASS]* 14

Near East & South Asia

Andrianov Comments on U.S.-Libyan Incident *[Moscow Radio]* 14
Afghanistan's Wakil Leaves Moscow for Paris *[TASS]* 15

British Paper Interviews Najibullah on Talks *[TASS]* 15
BAKHTAR Outlines Cease-Fire Situation *[TASS]* 15
Kabul Notes Trade, Economic Pacts Signed *[Kabul Radio]* 16
Full Publication of Afghan War Dead List Urged *[IZVESTIYA 2 Jan]* 16
Comparison of Kitsenko Article on Pakistan *[PRAVDA 4 Jan]* 17
Central Committee Greets Indian CP Congress *[PRAVDA 27 Dec]* 17

East Europe

Czechoslovak Deputy Minister Arrives in Moscow *[Prague CTK]* 17
RUDE PRAVO Cited on 10 December Prague Rally *[SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA 25 Dec]* 18
Interest Expressed in Adamec Ecology Proposal *[Prague RUDE PRAVO 28 Dec]* 18
Hungary's Grosz Interviewed on Renewal *[PRAVDA 27 Dec]* 18
Poland's Czyrek Receives USSR Order *[PRAVDA 24 Dec]* 18
Polish Delegation Attends Belorussia Events *[Warsaw TV]* 19
SED's Schabowski Awarded Friendship Order *[PRAVDA 4 Jan]* 19
SFRY's Suvar Replies to Jubilee Greetings *[PRAVDA 27 Dec]* 19

West Europe

Yakovlev Delegation Begins Visit to FRG 19
Arrives in Frankfurt *[TASS]* 19
Yakovlev Meets Genscher *[TASS]* 20
Further on Genscher, Other Talks *[Moscow TV]* 20
Yakovlev Attends DKP Congress Opening *[TASS]* 20
FRG Radio's Prisoner of Conscience Charge Denied
[KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA 4 Jan] 20

Latin America & Caribbean

Vorotnikov-Led Delegation Holds Havana Talks 21
Meets Cuba's Ventura *[TASS]* 21
Attends Anniversary Celebrations *[Moscow TV]* 21
Vorotnikov, Castro Meet 5 Jan *[TASS]* 22
Cuban Writer Denies Differences With USSR *[SOVETSKAYA KULTURA 1 Jan]* 22

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

Political & Social

Afghan Incident in Tashkent Described *[KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA 5 Jan]* 23
Afghan Consul Expresses Regret *[TASS]* 24
Central Committee Proposals for Stalin's Victims *[PRAVDA 6 Jan]* 24
Politburo Discusses Local Elections, Price Laws *[PRAVDA 5 Jan]* 25
Electoral Campaign for Peoples Deputies Continues 26
Armenia Nominates Gorbachev, Others *[Moscow Radio]* 26
Sakharov Proposed in Leningrad *[TASS]* 26
Muslim Candidate in Tajikistan *[TASS]* 26
Baku Commandant Issues Situation Notices 26
Peace Prevails 4 Jan *[Baku Radio]* 26
5 Jan Notice on Curfew Hours *[Baku Radio]* 27
R2 Billion Allocated for Armenian Construction *[Yerevan International]* 27
Latvian Popular Front Registration in Dispute *[AFP]* 27
Latvian Central Committee Holds Plenum *[Moscow Radio]* 27
Estonian Plenum Elects New Party Secretary *[SOVETSKAYA ESTONIYA 8 Dec]* 28
Ryzhkov, Zaykov Tour Moscow Plants *[PRAVDA 4 Jan]* 28
Zaykov Attends Moscow Gorkom Plenum *[TASS]* 29
Baklanov on Sverdlovsk Party Conference *[SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA 27 Dec]* 30
Ukrainian Party Resolution on Interethnic Relations *[TASS]* 31
Ukrainian Native Language Society Planned *[PRAVDA UKRAINY 28 Dec]* 31
Shcherbitskiy Addresses 22 Dec Kiev Gorkom *[PRAVDA UKRAINY 25 Dec]* 31

Four Youths Arrested Over Leningrad Explosions *[TASS]* 36
Resolution on Activity of Cooperatives Considered 36
AUCCTU Aide Interview *[TRUD 4 Jan]* 36
Social Bureau Aide Interview *[IZVESTIYA 2 Jan]* 37
Prosecutor Interview on Hijack Investigation *[PRAVDA 3 Jan]* 39
Church Works To Rehabilitate Repressed Clergy *[TASS]* 40
Jewish Emigration in 1988 Hits Near Record Count *[AFP]* 40

Economic

Shmelev Interviewed on Economic Issues of 1989
[SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA 3 Jan] 41
Consumer Goods Supply for 1989 Forecast *[TRUD 1 Jan]* 41
Academician on Food Procurement Price Anomalies *[IZVESTIYA 3 Jan]* 42
Joint Ventures in Leningrad 'Successful' *[TASS]* 44
TASS on Ukraine Economic Reforms, Enterprises 44

Military

Admiral Gromov on New Training Tasks for Navy *[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 3 Jan]* 45

CW Conference To Begin in Paris 7 January

'Urgent Task'

PM0501165389 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 5 Jan 89 First Edition p 3

[O. Molov article under the rubric "From the Positions of the New Thinking": "'Chemical Zero': Who Is Against?"]

[Text] In the next few days an international conference to strengthen the operation of the 1925 Geneva protocol "prohibiting the use in war of asphyxiating, poisonous, or other gases and of bacteriological methods" will begin work in Paris. The aim of this conference is to draw attention once again to the problem of rapidly banning chemical weapons, promoting strict compliance with all the terms of the Geneva protocol, and including in this protocol states that are at present not party to it. Such a conference is, indisputably, useful and necessary. But, let's be realistic; it will not resolve the main problem. The possibility of using chemical weapons can be excluded in only one way—when chemical weapons production is banned and stocks eliminated. This task can be resolved only by the adoption of an international legal document like the convention to be elaborated in Geneva.

What is impeding the most speedy completion of the elaboration of this document? It is the lack of a firm political will to ban chemical weapons by the leaders of some states, despite their verbose statements. Thus, U.S. Defense Secretary F. Carlucci frankly acknowledged that his country cannot agree to a "total zero" on chemical weapons. The secretary reckons that preserving these weapons is "a definite means of deterrence for the East." At one time people in France also opposed total chemical disarmament, demanding that some quantity of chemical weapons be left as a "safety margin." These are political statements.

Clearly, they promote the emergence of difficulties of a different sort. The main one is the reluctance of a number of Western governments to seek opportunities and ways to ensure real monitoring. Not only state but also private chemical enterprises must be monitored in this way. The question of the activity of transnational corporations which belong to the signatory states, but which operate in many different countries, including those that may not be signatories to the convention, is closely linked with this problem. Why are we striving for this? One reason: It is at these production units that it is most likely that chemical military potential will reappear or be stored in secret. A number of the future convention's provisions linked with questions of jurisdiction and monitoring are designed to resolve this problem.

As is well-known, transnational corporations have their own research laboratory and production base and subsidiary companies and enterprises abroad. "Union Carbide," which was guilty of the tragedy in Bhopal, for instance, has approximately 700 enterprises and laboratories, including almost 200 plants located not only in the United States but also in many countries in Western Europe, Latin America, Africa, and Asia.

That is why it would be correct for every state that is a party to the convention to bear full juridical responsibility for the activity of these corporations regardless of where their subsidiary companies and branches are located. Thus, in accordance with our approach, the U.S. Government should ensure that all "Union Carbide's" 700 enterprises and laboratories fulfill the convention.

Some countries still have a two-faced approach to the sphere of monitoring the various facilities of signatory states. These states are agreeable to accepting inspections of state enterprises on demand without right of refusal. But in accordance with the U.S. stance, it is proposed to subject private enterprises to more liberal monitoring—with right of refusal. This approach is discriminatory. If it is adopted, all the enterprises on the territory of Warsaw Pact countries will be strictly subjected to compulsory inspections, while most of the countries with a private chemical industry would only be partially monitored.

Thus, in an attempt to exploit the features of their own economic system, certain Western countries, under the guise of "protecting the commercial interests" of private firms and enterprises, are striving to preserve by all possible means the potential that could be used at any time to revive chemical weapons production.

The real possibility of a number of states mass producing and stockpiling a new variety of chemical munitions—binary munitions—is another important problem. As is well-known, the United States began production of binary chemical artillery munitions mid-December 1987 and, later, production of binary aerial bombs. Washington is now endeavoring to place orders for their manufacture, organize industrial production lines a little more rapidly, and create a firm production base for a new generation of chemical arms. Chemical arms manufacturers have already received assurances from the U.S. Defense Department that everything necessary will be done to ensure that the Geneva talks don't impede at least for the next 5-7 years the development and production of binary systems. France has also practically completely elaborated its industrial technology for binary chemical weapons production.

However, with their multipurpose structure and none of the distinguishing features characteristic of unitary chemical munitions, binary munitions can be stored secretly in arsenals. For combat use they only need to be fitted with canisters containing two relatively low-toxicity components which, when combined, turn into chemical agents. The components' production unit will

be virtually no different, for instance, from the production units engaged in synthesizing low-toxicity commercial chemicals. These production units will not be banned under the convention. Thus, there is also the danger that the convention's provisions can be circumvented.

The USSR has taken a number of concrete steps to create an atmosphere of trust, glasnost, and openness at the talks and to complete the work on the convention most speedily: It has stopped chemical weapons production; it has declared its stocks; it has invited the participants in the talks to the military facility at Shikhany and familiarized them with all the Soviet Armed Forces' chemical munitions and the technology for destroying them at the mobile facility. It has stated that it will not hand over chemical weapons to other countries and that none of its chemical weapons are on other countries' territories. Our country has put forward a draft memorandum on data exchange that enables many of the questions of the convention to be resolved and has also earmarked a chemical enterprise on USSR territory where the organization of the monitoring system will be tried out. An official stationary facility is under construction in the area of the city of Chapayevsk for destroying chemical weapons.

The most speedy completion of the work to elaborate a convention on the total and universal banning and destruction of chemical weapons is an urgent task facing all mankind. But success depends above all on the desire of all parties to the talks to conclude such a convention. I would like to hope that the conference will speed up the signing of this convention.

Chemical Troops Officer Quoted

LD0501124289 Moscow TASS in English 1211 GMT 5 Jan 89

[Text] Moscow January 5 TASS—It is believed in the Soviet Union that the forthcoming conference on chemical weapons, which is to be held in Paris and to deal with 1925 Geneva protocol, should focus its attention on the problem of concluding a convention on a universal ban on chemical weapons at an earliest date, said Academician Anatoliy Kuntsevich. Lieutenant-General Kuntsevich is deputy commander of Chemical Troops of the Soviet Armed Forces.

According to existing data, about 20 countries now possess chemical weapons, the scientist said in an interview with TASS diplomatic correspondent Vadim Biryukov. Juridically, only the Soviet Union and the United States have stated that they possess chemical weapons. Only the Soviet Union announced the ceiling of chemical weapons stocks, which amount to not more than 50,000 tons of toxic agents, in December 1987.

"It was expected in the Soviet Union that the United States would likewise announce a ceiling of its stocks of chemical weapons, but that did not happen", Kuntsevich said. "Meanwhile, according to existing estimates, and with old stocks taken into acocunt, the United States really possesses a stock of 100,000 tons of chemical weapons".

Of much importance is the circumstance that the Soviet Union keeps the stocks of its chemical weapons exclusively on its own territory. "This means that there are no chemical weapons on the territories of our allies for the Warsaw Treaty Organization, and that the Soviet Union has no stocks or forward-based toxic agents", Kuntsevich pointed out. As far as NATO is concerned, this military and political bloc possesses stocks of forward-based toxic agents. They are stored mainly in the Federal Republic of Germany (FRG). The storing of chemical weapons on the territory of that country which is at the line of contact of the two blocs is fraught with a serious danger.

"If a conflict with the use of conventional weapons breaks out in the area—this is, of course, only a theoretical supposition—the stores of toxic agents on the FRG's territory would be within the zone of hostilities and may be hit", Kuntsevich went on to say. "As a result, a cloud of toxic agents would start moving to affect, first of all, the positions of NATO armed forces. When NATO's chemical sensors begin to detect them, they would not be able to tell whose toxic agent that would be, NATO's or Soviet. A very dangerous situation, even the start of a chemical war may ensue".

If NATO countries remove the U.S. chemical weapons from the FRG, thereby the proposal on making Europe a zone free from chemical weapons would be automatically implemented, and an important step towards concluding a convention banning chemical weapons would be made. At present virtually the entire Europe is only under U.S. or NATO 'chemical umbrella', Anatoliy Kuntsevich said.

The U.S. double-faced stand is one of [as received] obstacles to the conclusion of a convention banning chemical weapons. "On the one hand, Washington takes part in the talks on concluding such a convention and, on the other hand, the production of chemical weapons in binary version is being practically conducted across the ocean, which in prospect will considerably complicate a solution to the chemical weapons verification problem", Academician Kuntsevich said in conclusion.

France's Dumas Quoted

PM0601102589 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 6 Jan 89 Morning Edition p 4

[Dispatch by own correspondent Yu. Kovalenko: "All Aspects of Disarmament Are Interconnected; Press Conference in Paris"]

[Text] An international conference on reinforcing the regime of the 1925 Geneva protocol banning the use of chemical weapons will be held at the UNESCO Paris

headquarters 7-11 January. Let us recall that U.S. President R. Reagan and French President F. Mitterrand came out with the initiative for holding it at the last UN General Assembly session. Other countries, including the USSR, supported this initiative.

Delegations from more than 140 countries will take part in the conference. The arrival of approximately 75 foreign ministers is expected. The Soviet delegation will be headed by E.A. Shevardnadze, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR foreign minister.

Reinforcing the regime of the 1925 Geneva protocol and lending the necessary impetus to the talks in Geneva which are examining the question of adopting a convention on the total banning and destruction of chemical weapons—those are the main aims of the Paris conference, which is meeting with the approval of all its participants, French Foreign Minister R. Dumas said at a news conference.

The minister explained the difference between the conference which is about to open and the present Geneva talks (it is a case of the work of the disarmament conference). While the Paris meeting will end with the adoption of a declaration, he said, the elaboration of a new legal instrument is under way in Geneva. The main thing is to confirm in Paris, at political level, the need to ban chemical weapons. The best way to do this—and here all participants are unanimous—is to ban their production and storage, R. Dumas said.

In Paris, he said, a final document will be adopted containing five main points: unanimous condemnation of the use of chemical weapons, full support for the 1925 Geneva protocol, the need to conclude a convention on the banning of chemical weapons, problems of the proliferation of these weapons, and support for the role of the United Nations.

France believes, the minister pointed out, that the banning of chemical weapons is inextricably linked with the desire to achieve progress in attaining disarmament in all fields. France was the first country, R. Dumas said, answering a question from our correspondent, to approve the treaty on shorter- and intermediate-range missiles, and it welcomes all steps leading to disarmament. France, the minister also said, acted in support of treaties aimed at achieving further progress in the field of nuclear disarmament. We welcome the sucessful completion of the Vienna meeting, which should end in a few days and thus make possible the start of talks on reducing armed forces and conventional armaments in Europe, he emphasized. We note with satisfaction the political readiness to continue the cause of disarmament in all spheres. That is why we cannot separate the Paris conference from the entire complex of disarmament problems. For instance, we cannot wait for the complete destruction of nuclear weapons, the head of the French foreign policy department stressed, only after that to begin talks on other disarmament issues, because all aspects of disarmament are interconnected.

CEMA Secretary Sychev Interviewed

AU0501145689 Sofia RABOTNICHESKO DELO in Bulgarian 4 Jan 89 pp 1, 5

[Interview with Vyacheslav Sychev, secretary of CEMA, by RABOTNICHESKO DELO correspondent Atanas Atanasov, in Moscow: "Strategy Toward Breakthroughs"—date not given]

[Text] The Comprehensive Program for the Scientific and Technical Progress of the CEMA Member States Through the Year 2000, adopted 3 years ago at the 41st (extraordinary) session of CEMA, reflects a qualitatively new stage in the development of the countries of the community—a stage of intensification of social production through accelerating scientific and technical progress across a broad front. The interview with CEMA Secretary Vyacheslav Sychev is devoted to the topical problems that are concomitant with the fulfillment of the program.

[Atanasov] What is the most general assessment of the work completed so far in fulfilling the program's global task, namely, to ensure that our countries attain leading positions in the development of world science and technology by the end of the century?

[Sychev] The general assessment is indisputably positive. The program has helped to activate and deepen multilateral cooperation in these priority sectors. More than 1,500 organizations from all the countries in the community are taking part in implementing the program. Purposeful work has been undertaken on 3,000 tasks, whose fulfillment will mean the creation of 2,500 new types of equipment. These will represent a broad range of products—from laboratory installations and apparatus to supercomputers capable of performing tens of billions of operations per second.

The tight deadlines for solving most of the problems in the program have required a substantial increase in efficiency both in resolving the various issues of cooperation and in reducing bureaucratic and departmental difficulties to the minimum possible. Accordingly, the direct links between enterprises, trusts, and scientific and technical organizations of the CEMA member countries are becoming the main element in the cooperation.

[Atanasov] Direct links have long figured in the list of practical tasks of primary importance in mutual cooperation, yet they are still largely limited to exchanges of delegations and leading experience....

[Sychev] I would not have said "still," since the contacts and interrelations connected with direct scientific and technical, project design, and production activities have now come to the forefront. Life has required an expansion of the rights of the national enterprises in the foreign economic field. In most of the CEMA member countries, laws have come into force that grant the right to choose partners for direct links, conclude contracts with them, fix prices for mutually delivered production, and utilize a large proportion of the foreign exchange receipts for their own needs. There has been marked success in simplifying the customs formalities connected with the conveyance of instruments, machines, materials, and experimental specimens of products designed within the framework of the comprehensive program.

[Atanasov] In the interview you gave to RABOTNICHESKO DELO 3 years ago, you explained the reasons for the need to intensively develop all forms of cooperation and, more specifically, for the interested countries to create joint scientific and technical collectives, laboratories, design offices, enterprises, and trusts. What is the actual position now in this sphere, and does what has been achieved correspond to "what is required"?

[Sychev] Such organizations are already operating. Examples include a Bulgarian-Soviet scientific-production trust in powder metallurgy, ceramics, and composite materials, and the provisional Soviet-Bulgarian collective for organizing the introduction of membrane processes in the separation of biological suspensions. I might also mention the "Robot" international scientific-production trust, the joint Soviet-Hungarian enterprise for the development, production, and marketing of large "Intermos" integrated circuits, and others.

It is perhaps unnecessary to state that the qualifier "intensive" is still not being applied with regard to the present development of the higher forms of cooperation between our countries. The mechanism of cooperation is suffering from a number of flaws. For example, the list of organizations that have established direct links includes more than 1,000 pairs of enterprises, but only 60 of these have a direct connection with the comprehensive program. Another "bottleneck" that I might point out is the unsatisfactory tie-up of the joint development projects with the relevant agreements on specialization and production sharing between organizations and enterprises of the CEMA member countries. The difficulties in fixing prices for mutually delivered production, the absence of special-purpose financing, and other matters are posing serious obstacles in this respect.

[Atanasov] It is well-known that the Comprehensive Program of the CEMA countries is similar in structure and content to the "Eureka" program of the West European states. It is also well-known that the analytical comparisons of the progress and results of fulfillment of the two programs are not in our favor. Where is attention being concentrated in the "Eureka" program?

[Sychev] First and foremost, on the careful preliminary development of the projects. As a rule, this is carried out on competitive principles at all stages of drawing up the projects, especially at the initial stage. The projects, with the cost and fulfillment deadlines firmly specified, are then assessed by the competent experts, giving the "green light" to the best one. Any country or organization interested in taking part in a given project pays a

prescribed amount into a common fund that covers the basic costs of developing the project. The means are utilized centrally, as the project leadership thinks fit, thanks to which high operational efficiency and effectiveness is ensured in achieving what was planned.

The issue of encouraging the participants in every initiative is also of great importance. For example, a special promotion fund is set up for every individual project, made up of contributions from the partners. This fund has the purpose of actively stimulating the intensification, so to speak, of the cooperation and of ensuring that the planned goals are achieved in the best way.

The formation of the "Eureka" programs begins with the creation of the information systems—a marvelous means for a wide exchange of information between the research groups and for effectively coordinating the work. Separate fragments of such information systems, mainly used in publishing, exist within the framework of the comprehensive program of our own countries.

A further important difference of the "Eureka" program is that major industrial firms take part in all of its projects. These firms have a direct interest in quickly completing all the stages, from designing the main prototypes to introducing them into mass production.

[Atanasov] At least two questions arise from what you have said. First, is the CEMA Secretariat "buying" anything from the practice "over there"? Second, if the answer is "yes," what is being done to further improve cooperation within the framework of the comprehensive program?

[Sychev] In its work, the CEMA Secretariat holds to the Leninist principle: If necessary, we will "buy" from the devil, but we will "buy" in order to learn and move forward.... It is for this reason that I have mentioned in greater detail some of the positive features in the practice of the EEC member states in fulfilling the "Eureka" program. I would remind you that 6 months ago a joint declaration was signed establishing official relations between the two international economic organizations. These relations are already entering the channels of mutually beneficial business contacts and links. It is appropriate to point out that both sides attach great importance to agreeing on the forms, methods, and spheres of cooperation. The prospects for cooperation were examined at the October session of the CEMA Executive Committee. The same set of problems was also discussed at an unofficial meeting of the EC foreign ministers. This meeting was followed by talks between experts of the two organizations on exchanging views on possible approaches, forms, and methods, as well as on the priority spheres of cooperation.

[Atanasov] At the last CEMA session, special attention was devoted to the still unsatisfactory economic results of the cooperation under the existing system of its organization. Could you please enumerate three of the most important countermeasures.

[Sychev] The economic reforms under way in almost all the countries of the community require that the mechanism for implementing the comprehensive program should be adapted to the new economic conditions. More specifically, this means that systems must be brought into action that stimulate to the optimum extent the interest of the organizations and enterprises in strictly fulfilling the tasks of the program. The cooperation in carrying out the individual projects must be placed on an economic basis, while fairly observing the economic interests of all the participants in the "science-technology-production-marketing" cycle.

At the time the comprehensive program was adopted, the need for it to be periodically renewed was documented. It cannot be said that this is being carried out systematically. For example, until recently such a problem as high-temperature superconductivity was not included. The preparations are now being completed of important special-purpose, scientific-production, and technological projects whose implementation must lead to true breakthroughs in a number of fields of science, technical developments, and technologies. It is envisaged that the projects will now pass through the stage of high-precision, competitive selection.

In conclusion, I would point out that the end goal of the restructuring of the CEMA mechanism is the gradual formation of a united market of the nine countries in the community. This is a complex process that requires very careful and lengthy scientific and experimental preparation, but this is the only sure way to speed up scientific and technical progress in the CEMA countries.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs News Briefing 5 Jan

Gerasimov on Libyan Planes, Vienna

LD0501162389 Moscow TASS in English 1613 GMT 5 Jan 89

[Text] Moscow January 5 TASS—In Moscow they received with indignation the fact that Washington's anti-Libyan campaign outgrew into a direct armed clash over the Mediterranean, as a result of which two Libyan planes were shot down and the threat of a new conflict situation in the region emerged, Gennadiy Gerasimov, head of the Soviet Foreign Ministry Information Directorate, said at a briefing here today.

"It is still not late to prevent a further escalation of military confrontation in southern Mediterranean by displaying wisdom and high sense of responsibility which are so sorely needed in this exceptionally important moment of the development of the international situation," Gerasimov said.

Andrey Vdovin, an expert of the Soviet Foreign Ministry who was present at the briefing, responding to journalists' questions, said that the United States did not inform in advance the Soviet side "about any of its specific intentions with regard to Libya." At the same time he stressed that "our contacts with the Libyan leadership are maintained on a permanent basis." The Soviet fleet in the region is on its ususal status, Vdovin said.

Speaking on possible terms for the completion of the Vienna follow-up meeting, Gerasimov noted that in the Soviet Union they hold that real opportunities emerged for this to happen in the next few days, specifically on January 17-19, 1989 as is proposed by several countries.

"We do not see insurmountable problems to reaching a consensus on a final document and a mandate of the talks on conventional armaments... We are confident that the holding of a humanitarian forum in Moscow in 1991 will be a major step in the development of the European mechanism of cooperation in the humanitarian sphere," the Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman said.

Emphasizing the importance of an international conference of the states-signatories to the 1925 Geneva protocol and other countries concerned in opening in Paris in several days, Gerasimov noted that in the Soviet Union they support the initiative for convening the conference proceeding from the premise that its thrust is consistent with the USSR's principled line for strengthening intolerance to chemical weapons, their use... The conference is meant to clear the way to a world free of chemical weapons and the threat of their use." [no opening quotation mark as received]

Shevardnadze To Head Paris CW Delegation

LD0601072089 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0204 GMT 6 Jan 89

[Text] The international conference of signatory states of the 1925 Geneva protocol and other concerned countries opens in Paris on 7 January.

The Soviet Union has supported the initiative for convening this conference proceeding from the fact that its thrust is consistent with our fundamental line of strengthening intolerance of chemical weapons and their use.

This was stated at a briefing at the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs press center.

Our country's delegation will be headed by Comrade Shevardnadze.

UN Security Council Discusses U.S.-Libyan Incident

LD0501231289 Moscow TASS in English 2300 GMT 5 Jan 89

[Text] New York January 6 TASS—At its first meeting this year on Thursday the United Nations Security Council started discussing the downing of two Libyan reconnaissance aircraft by U.S. fighter-planes over international waters in the Mediterranean. The Security Council was urgently convened at the request of Libya and a group of Arab countries in the United Nations in order "to put an end to the U.S. aggression" against Libya.

The debate was opened by Libyan Deputy Permanent Representative to the United Nations 'Ali Sunni Muntasir. He warned that the premeditated attack by U.S. fighter-planes on unarmed Libyan planes which were making a routine reconnaissance flight might be a prelude to a more scopeful and dangerous aggression. He emphasized that the Security Council should fulfill the obligations imposed on it by the United Nations Charter to maintain international peace and security and should decisively condemn this aggression to prevent still more dangerous consequences. The Libyan representative urged the United States to withdraw its naval force from the Mediterranean and end the policy of provocations and aggression against the Libyan people.

U.S. 'Accusations' Denied

LD0601065989 Moscow TASS in English 0646 GMT 6 Jan 89

[Text] New York January 6 TASS—Libya's charge d'affaires ad interim of Libya at the United Nations, 'Ali Sunni Muntasir, speaking at the current meeting of the U.N. Security Council here, denied U.S. accusations that Libya was preparing to manufacture chemical weapons. He recalled that U.S. had launched slanderous disinformation campaigns previously as well to cover up aggressive actions against his country.

The U.N. Security Council on Thursday began to discuss the question of the shooting down of two Libyan reconnaissance planes by U.S. jet fighters over international waters in Mediterranean.

On behalf of the Arab countries' group at the United Nations Kuwaiti representative 'Abdallah Jasim Shakir expressed their solidarity with Libya which had been subjected to an unprovoked aggression which not only led to the deterioration of the situation in the region but also put international peace and security in jeopardy.

He said the world had been shocked by this use of force. Such acts of aggression might be continued if most drastic measures were not taken to stop them. He urged the U.N. Security Council firmly to condemn the aggressor and to take effective measures to prevent such actions in the future.

Representatives of the League of Arab States (LAS), Tunis, Syria, Burkina Faso, and Cuba issued similar calls, emphasising the inadmissibility of U.S. attempts at flagrantly trampling on the norms of international law and at assuming a certain 'right' to punish states unwelcome to it. They pointed out that such actions, which are a manifestation of state-sponsored terrorism, defied the entire international community and undermined its efforts aimed at looking for political solutions to conflict situations.

Samir Mansour, LAS observer at the United Nations, pointed out, in particular, that the United States had complicated the quest and prospects for peace in the Middle East. He said the USA should withdraw its fleet from the Mediterranean for the latter to become a peace zone.

Not a single word was uttered in defence of Washington in the U.N. Security Council's auditorium, except for a statement by U.S. Deputy Permanent Representative Herbert Okun who began his speech with an absurd assertion that it was not Libya that was the aggrieved party but rather the United States.

The U.S. diplomat repeated literally word for word the justifications which the Pentagon had been making for the second day. He said the United States considered the incident as closed but he gave the international community no guarantees of non-recurrence of aggression.

U.S.-Libyan Incident May Undermine Peace Efforts

LD0501195689 Moscow International Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 5 Jan 89

[Aleksey Zlatorunskiy commentary: "Dangerous Provocation in the Mediterranean Sea"]

[Text] The unjustified military operation carried out by the United States against the Libyan Jamahiriyah, which led to the downing of two Libyan aircraft by U.S. Air Force planes in international airspace over the Mediterranean Sea, is the main news item covered by all the media. Despite their differing contents, these reports are characterized by the same feature, namely concern over the fate of the international processes worldwide aimed at achieving international detente, as well as over the fate of those positive changes that have manifested themselves in the settlement of conflicts, primarily in the Middle East. It is believed that this concern is based on proven grounds.

Washington's dangerous return to its strong-arm policy, which has often led the world to the brink of confrontation, is considered incompatible with the times. It also could be considered an attempt to impede the progress of the international community toward establishing a safe international security system, or even as an attempt to undermine this progress.

The U.S. Administration was confronted by reactions to its provocative action against the Libyan Jamahiriyah. Therefore, it is trying to develop the situation in such a way as to present it as an isolated incident and, consequently, that there is no need to make the incident into an issue that might lead to dangerous consequences.

These claims could have been believed except for one fact, namely that the attack on two Libyan planes occurred during the climate of a malicious campaign which the United States launched a month ago against the Libyan Jamahiriyah. The U.S. fleet directed its forces toward the shores of the Libyan Jamahiriyah and the U.S. media discussed with frankness, if not with disdain, the form of the Pentagon's various plans to launch sea and air raids against installations of the Libyan Jamahiriyah. This reminds us of April 1986, when U.S. planes dropped bombs and fired missiles at Tripoli and Benghazi, causing a number of casualties among the population.

Do you not believe that in light of all these facts the talks about a coincidence or an isolated incident with regard to the attack on the two Libyan planes is unconvincing?

The UN Security Council today is examining Libya's request for an emergency debate on this incident, which occurred in international airspace over the Mediterranean Sea. It also has been decided to discuss this matter in an emergency session of the Arab League Council, which will be attended by the foreign ministers of the Arab member-states. It can be said with all confidence that the members of the UN Security Council will condemn these U.S. actions, as they have been condemned by many countries, including the USSR, and by influential international organizations such as the Arab League, the Nonaligned Movement, and the OAU, among others. This is quite important.

The United States must realize finally that such actions are not tolerated as they are incompatible with the basic interests of mankind as a whole. There is another important point, namely that the incident that occurred over the Mediterranean Sea has demonstrated once again how crucial it is to demilitarize this region, to withdraw from it all foreign fleets, and to eliminate all foreign military

bases there. It is worth mentioning that the resolution of this issue will radically improve the situation in the Mediterranean Sea and will create secure obstacles to interference in the affairs of the sovereign Mediterranean countries.

Gorbachev Named 1988 'Man of The Year'

LD0501215489 Moscow TASS in English 2145 GMT 5 Jan 89

[Text] Paris January 6 TASS—The diploma and medal "Man of the Year" for Mikhail Gorbachev general secretary of the Soviet Communist Party Central Committee and president of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, was turned over in a ceremony to the USSR Embassy in France on Thursday. The award has been made by the international jury "Man of the Year" which has been naming the outstanding figures in various areas since 1970.

Gorbachev has been voted man of the year due to his efforts aimed at the establishment in the world of the atmosphere of concord and cooperation which have already resulted in a number of diplomatic successes, because of his activity in the Soviet Union, his organizing capacities and initiative, Leo Saunnegon, president of the international jury "Man of the Year" said at the ceremony. These efforts were highly appraised by the international community. They open fresh opportunities for the warming of the international situation, for peaceful coexistence. At the same time, Mikhail Gorbachev is conducting in the Soviet Union the course at changes in the areas of politics, economics and culture, enjoying the support of the Soviet people, Leo Saunnegon said in conclusion.

The award for President Gorbachev is quite natural, said Anne Sinclair, moderator of a popular programme of the French television network TF-1, speaking on behalf of the French media, many of which, including this major television network, voted the Soviet leader the man of the year 1988. His activity at the head of the Soviet Union, the transformations in the USSR are remarkable events of the recent period, she said. The importance of these processes, the sincerity of the striving for durable peace are now recognized even in the West, where there was initially caution in appraising the changes in the USSR. It is not accidental that in France, just as in the whole world, Gorbachev's activity was most highly appraised in 1988.

Officials Comment on Cooperative Movement

LD0501154789 Moscow TASS in English 1534 GMT 5 Jan

[Text] Moscow January 5 TASS—"We have no intention to interfere with the development of the cooperative movement in the country. The aim is only to prevent anything that runs counter to the interests of society and the state," stated Georgiy Golubov, member of the Collegium of the USSR Ministry of Justice.

Speaking at a briefing at the press centre of the Soviet Foreign Ministry today, he commented on the recently issued decision of the Soviet Government regulating some aspects of the cooperative activities in the country.

Explaining the reason for the issue of the decision half a year after the law on cooperatives was adopted, Georgiy Golubov said: "Way back when the draft law was discussed countrywide, a large number of proposals came in from population on establishing a list of permissible types of the cooperatives' activities. However it was deemed premature and therefore unadvisable at that stage to include them in the new law. The state of affairs is different now: The cooperatives have gained the experience which identify both positive and negative aspects of their activities."

The Soviet Government's decision which generalised the experience is based on the major criterion of the law on cooperatives: Any types of activities are allowed with the exception of those banned by the legislation of the country and of union republics. Therefore limitations concern a very small number of cooperatives—less than one per cent, the Soviet lawyer pointed out.

In answer to journalists' questions, Ivan Korovkin, deputy chairman of the USSR State Committee for Book Printing, Publishing and Book Trade touched upon the publishing activities of some cooperatives.

By introducing certain limitations, he said, society seeks to get rid of lowest grade consumer items, of pornography and overt fact work. When saying that he demonstrated posters, wall calendars, post-cards and other types of cooperative products which caused a lively stir in the audience.

"We expect that cooperatives will render services editing and publishing services to organizations which have the right to publishing, for example, the public multiplication of printed products, the printing of forms, labels and menues, Korovkin pointed out.

"As far as the publication of books is concerned, this is in our deep conviction the business of state publishing houses. This opinion is shared by an overwhelming majority of the authors of letters that came in during the discussion of the law on cooperatives.

Vladislav Kazenin, USSR deputy minister of culture, for his part also expressed conviction that independent amateur concert associations should act in close creative contact with state-run organizations. This will help avoid the penetration of variety art by hack work.

The problem of compensation for the losses incurred by cooperatives which are closed down was touched upon at the briefing.

United States & Canada

Further Reaction to Libyan MiG Downing Reported

'Dangerous Recurrence' of 'Gun Law'

PM0501141189 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 5 Jan 89 Second Edition p 5

[Own Correspondent V. Gan dispatch: "'Gun Law' Rears Ugly Head Again: Two Libyan Planes Shot Down"]

[Text] Washington, 4 Jan—The war of nerves which Washington began against Libya a week ago had its logical result today—an armed clash above the Mediterranean. As official U.S. administration spokesmen have reported, at about 0500 hours Washington time, two U.S. F-14 fighters based on the aircraft carrier "John Kennedy," which is stationed in the region, attacked and shot down two Libyan air force planes.

The information that is being received is still only fragmentary. White House spokesman R. Popadiak, who is with President Reagan in Los Angeles, told correspondents that the U.S. fighters "were carrying out a routine patrol over the waters north of Tobruk." In his words, they "were threatened" by the Libyan fighters and were forced to defend themselves. The Americans "returned safely to the carrier." Two parachutes from the Libyan aircraft were seen in the region of the incident.

The White House spokesman reported that C. Powell, the President's national security adviser, woke Reagan about 1 hour after the clash and informed him about the incident. In Washington President-elect Bush was also woken up and informed. There has been no reaction from either Reagan or Bush yet. However, Vice President-elect D. Quayle was quick to defend the U.S. pilots' actions, stating: "In my opinion they acted appropriately."

Such a conclusion, however, is hasty to say the least. A far weightier and more reasoned opinion was expressed by Admiral E. Carrol, retired, who viewed the U.S. version of the incident critically: "This is a deliberate fueling of tension," Carrol stated.

Recent events undoubtedly demonstrate that the United States is mounting a new campaign of blackmail and pressure against sovereign Libya. The formal pretext was the U.S. claim that the Tripoli government is preparing the production of chemical weapons. Libya's denials, of course, were disregarded on the sole grounds that "they cannot be believed." Last week, President Reagan reported that his administration had discussed with its NATO allies the question of "punishing" Libya.

It is not just a matter of Washington's ominous rhetoric. The Pentagon has sent a naval task force of 12 ships to the central Mediterranean. It is headed by the "Theodore Roosevelt," the latest aircraft carrier. The group also includes thousands of Marines provided with landing equipment.

Even though the Pentagon has asserted that the deployment of this naval strike force is a "regular" one and was "planned many months ago," observers have reason to be skeptical about such statements. The anti-Libyan campaign on the Potomac, aimed at achieving the international isolation of Libya and the overthrow of Al-Qadhdhafi, has never ceased. Everyone knows what a storm of protests was caused throughout the world by the U.S. bandit air raid on the Libyan capital when hundreds of innocent people were killed or injured by American bombs.

Today's incident shows that this is a dangerous recurrence of the "gun law" which the United States high-handedly arrogates to itself.

Reagan Approves of Shooting

LD0601083489 Moscow TASS in English 0826 GMT 6 Jan 89

[Text] Washington January 6 TASS—President Reagan indicated that he approves of the downing of two Libyan planes by U.S. jet fighters over international waters in the Mediterranean on Wednesday. He was speaking as he ended his Christmas holiday and returned to Washington from California on Thursday.

"Our pilots acted completely in self defence," he said in Los Angeles before boarding his aircraft. "They did the right thing."

The U.S. is doing everything to give the impression that they acted defensively in response to alleged "provocation" from the Libyan planes.

With this end in view the Pentagon surprisingly quickly brought one of the F-14's air crews to Washington who brought a videotape of what happened in the air.

Paper Deplores 'Gunboat Diplomacy'

PM0501161189 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 6 Jan 89 Morning Edition p 4

[Konstantin Geyvandov article under the "Political Observer's Opinion" rubric: "Return to 'Gunboat Diplomacy'"]

[Text] The wave of threats of military reprisals against Libya from the United States is near danger point. The U.S. squadron in the Mediterranean has rapidly been doubled in size. A powerful military strike force of almost 200 planes, 30 ships, including 2 aircraft carriers, and about 25,000 U.S. officers and soldiers is gathering. A possible date for the beginning of the military actions

is also being mentioned—between 11 January and 20 January. But in fact the first shot has already been fired—two Libyan fighters have been shot down over the sea.

This time Washington's "charge" against Libya is that a pharmaceutical plant under construction near the latter's capital is really intended for the production of chemical weapons. Furthermore, no arguments which cast doubt on such accusations are being accepted or acknowledged. In particular, the Libyan Government's offer of an on-site international inspection has been rejected. Also dismissed are the claims by America's West European allies that the U.S. photographs of the Libyan plant taken by a CIA satellite do not prove that the enterprise is designed for chemical weapons production.

In brief, it is clear that for some reason the outgoing U.S. administration urgently needed an overseas military action. And if the "charge" of building a chemical weapons plant will not suffice, it is not impossible that they will use the recent destruction of a U.S. Boeing-747 over Scotland as a "convenient" pretext. Why? Perhaps President Reagan has decided as a parting gesture to try finally to settle scores with his "Libyan enemy"? Or perhaps he wants to help the next Republican administration to gain approval for the Pentagon budget by creating an atmosphere of war hysteria in the country?

I do not know. I can only make innumerable guesses at Washington's real motives. The only fact which is on the surface and which must be stated with the utmost certainty is that the whole venture under discussion here smacks very much of unconcealed terrorism. And the most deplorable thing is that this most loathsome present-day phenomenon is elevated to the level of state policy by a power whose rulers claim to be leading a "crusade" against terrorism. That is precisely how the U.S. threats of military reprisals against Libya are viewed throughout the world, first and foremost in the Arab countries.

I cannot but draw attention to the fact that in this instance, as always, Washington is using a "double standard" in the evaluation of such phenomena and situations. The question that springs to mind here is: If the United States is worried by the spread of chemical weapons to the extent that it is prepared to bomb a Libyan plant, why is it that it has not taken and has no intention of taking similar measures against Israel, for example, which furthermore has nuclear weapons, intermediate-range missiles, and even ballistic missiles, too?

I admit that at first this entire venture by Washington seemed a mere bluff to me. One which looks very irresponsible against the background of the favorable changes in the international climate in recent years. But I was clearly wrong. The action against Libya has all the elements of the notorious "gunboat diplomacy." At the end of the 20th century, with the next century almost upon us, we are being dragged back into the 19th century.

Downing 'Flouts International Law'

PM0501162189 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 6 Jan 89 Morning Edition p 4

[Feature comprising dispatches from B. Ivanov and M. Kozhevnikov in Moscow, A. Blinov in Washington, A. Krivopalov in London, and V. Anchikov in Tripoli, plus commentary by G.M. Melkov, candidate of juridical sciences: "Armed Incident over the Mediterranean"]

[Excerpts] It occurred early on the morning of 4 January. Two Libyan MiG-23's flying over international waters in the Mediterranean were shot down by F-14 fighters that had taken off from the U.S. aircraft carrier "John F. Kennedy."

Some minutes after the incident the telephone rang at the U.S. President's ranch in California. It was late at night local time, and Reagan was roused from his bed. Powell, the President's national security advisor, briefed his boss on what had happened.... [passage omitted]

G.M. Melkov, candidate of juridical sciences and specialist in international law, comments on the incident as follows:

"According to the 1958 Geneva Convention on the Open Sea, to which the United States is a signatory, all states enjoy freedom of navigation on sea and in the air outside littoral states' territorial waters and no one has the right in peacetime to destroy foreign warships or aircraft engaged in ordinary, routine voyages or flights.

"No state of war exists between the United States and Libya at the present time, and relations between them are based on the UN Charter and other existing norms of international law, and therefore the destruction of the Libyan warplanes not only flouts all existing norms of international law but also falls under the definition of aggression adopted by the 29th Assembly of the UN General Assembly on 14 December 1974. And although the UN General Assembly resolution is not an international treaty, the norms listed in it are so serious and generally recognized that they must be observed and carried out by all states as ordinary norms of international law.

"Responsibility for all actions by warships and aircraft on the open sea rests solely with the states to which the ships and aircraft belong. Under modern peacetime conditions no one will decide at his own risk to attack and destroy on the open sea a warship or warplane belonging to a foreign state. Such actions are carried out only on the order of a top [vysshiy] political leader...." [passage omitted]

Termed 'Murder in Cold Blood'

LD0501123489 Moscow World Service in English 1210 GMT 5 Jan 89

[Commentary by Aleksandr Pogodin]

[Text] The following event has caused outrage and concern in the whole world: the shooting down by American fighter planes of two Libyan jets. The U.S. official version is that it was done in self-defense, countering menacing actions by the Libyan aircraft. But was it so? Our commentator, Aleksandr Pogodin, writes:

I am convinced that it was in fact an act of unprovoked aggression that cannot be justified. The attack was made on two unarmed reconnaissance planes which could pose no threat to the American Air Force. That was murder in cold blood, little different from the shooting down by the American cruiser of the passenger airliner last year. The premeditated character of the 4 January incident is seen from the fact that it occurred in the context of an anti-Libyan campaign fanned by the United States with open threats to deal a missile strike at Libya. To make this policy of military blackmail even more effective, the United States has sent another naval force to the Mediterranean. In this situation the downing of Libyan planes should be seen as a deliberate act in an extensive provocative campaign.

It is significant that the United States has officially announced the incident closed. This shows more than Washington's usual imperial conviction it has the right to present the world with an accomplished fact. It also betrays haste to close the case in fear of facing responsibility to the world community. But there's no evading such responsibility. Libya has demanded an emergency meeting of the UN Security Council to condemn this act of deliberate aggression. The League of Arab States has expressed its full solidarity with Libya and protest against the barbarous actions of the United States. It has warned Washington against further escalation of confrontation with Libya.

The USSR finds that the United States anti-Libyan actions contravene both international law and the positive processes which have been prevailing in the world. In these conditions any military action is a grave blow to the cause of improving the international climate and deserves nothing but resolute censure.

'Act of Lawlessness' Committed

LD0501141389 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1305 GMT 5 Jan 89

[Text] Moscow, 5 Jan (TASS)—TASS Political Observer Askold Biryukov writes: The United States has committed its latest act of lawlessness in the Mediterranean area, bringing down two Libyan fighter planes heading north from Tobruk over international waters. This is the logical consequence of Washington's whipping up of anti-Libyan hysteria on the pretext that Libya is allegedly intent on commissioning a factory manufacturing chemical weapons.

In giving a motive for this act, references are made in Washington to the fact that the U.S. pilots, it is claimed, saw the flight of the Libyan planes as "an attempt at attack" and therefore opened fire on them. It seems however that this reaction stems directly from the baiting of Libya and its leader, al-Qadhdhafi, which has already been going on for a long time in the United States, during which the United States, a little less than 3 years ago, subjected the Libyan cities of Tripoli and Banghazi to bombardment, and are now preparing a fresh blow at an industrial facility within that country. The action of those who brought down the Libyan planes this time is almost identical to the actions of the U.S. Navy in the Persian Gulf, where the peaceful flight of an Iranian airliner, interrupted, like that in the Mediterranean, by U.S. missiles, was seen as an "attempt at attack."

Rattling sabres has never done anyone any good. Weapons hanging on the wall sooner or later fire. The consequences of such a shot cannot always be predicted. The price the international community has to pay because of this is very high. Now threatened are all the positive processes throughout the world which have been developed with such difficulty in recent years, and which are still being developed through the efforts of many states. It is no accident that none of the West European leaders has shown solidarity this time with the blatant U.S. provocation, which has publicly declared its intention to use force against Libya.

What the United States has done this time confirms the view that Washington's threat to wipe the factory in Libya from the face of the earth is in fact aimed not so much at this particular enterprise as at Libya itself, its leadership, and at the right of that country to freedom of choice. Nor can the possibility be denied that someone in the United States needs a heightening of the situation in order to close the door to prospects for unblocking the Arab-Israeli conflict that have genuinely begun to appear since the decisions of the Palestine National Congress in Algiers.

One final thing: To remove the U.S. concern regarding the factory in Libya, the Libyan leadership has proposed conducting an international inspection of that enterprise. Specialists in Washington have voiced the opinion that working out a procedure for inspecting the factory in Libya that would lift U.S. suspicions is entirely possible. However, for some reason such an inspection has been rejected by official Washington. All this is taking place on the eve of the opening in Paris of the international conference to consolidate the Geneva protocol banning the use of chemical weapons. The question is involuntarily raised: Is the United States not trying by these means to knock this forum off course? Is it not trying, in

rejecting an inspection, to justify evading tackling the issue of control and inspection that has become the stumbling block at the talks in Geneva to conclude an international convention on totally banning chemical weapons?

Commentator on 'Power Politics'

LD0501225389 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1800 GMT 5 Jan 89

[From the "Vremya" newscast; commentary by Yuriy Rostov]

[Text] The escalation of the crisis around Libya has been going on since last month. The United States accused this country of intending to produce chemical weapons. Libya denied this accusation. The dispute is over a chemical plant, which is being built in Libya and which is like many other similar facilities—capable in principle of producing both medicines and poisonous substances. Libya proposed that a representative from Washington examine the enterprise. The United States refuses this proposal, saying that there is no point in a single inspection.

The United States began to fan an anti-Libyan campaign by sending to the Libyan shores additional subunits of the Navy. Two Libyan aircraft were shot down yesterday. The possibility of a U.S. missile attack on the plant itself in Libya is even reported.

It is, of course possible to argue about the intentions and about whether a single inspection of the plant being built would be effective. However, another thing is important: the United States has not even begun to examine the possibility of an inspection. It has not conducted a dialogue about the possibility of regular inspections either. Military pressure and escalation of tension—it would seem that the danger of power politics was proved long ago. However, this policy is being carried out. The first victims occurred yesterday, tomorrow there may be many more of them. [video shows Rostov speaking throughout]

U.S. Decides To Attend Human Rights Conferences

LD0501115289 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0607 GMT 5 Jan 89

[Text] Washington, 5 Jan (TASS)—TASS correspondent Igor Ignatyev reports:

President Ronald Reagan has decided on U.S. participation in three human rights conferences which will be held in the coming 3 years in Paris, Copenhagen, and Moscow as a continuation of the process started by the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe.

In a statement read out in Los Angeles, where R. Reagan is on vacation, an official representative of the White House reported that the President had empowered the U.S. delegation in Vienna to support the proposed schedule for holding those conferences.

Until recently the Washington Administraton had been against the organization of one of these conferences in Moscow in 1991, referring to allegations of human rights violations in the Soviet Union. However, as the White House statement says, over the past 3 years there has been "considerable progress" in the Soviet Union in this area. The President's representative also noted that in his recent address at the session of the UN General Assembly, Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev had announced that new laws were to be adopted connected with ensuring human rights.

The U.S. decision to support the holding of the human rights conferences removes the last obstacles to these important forums, which will serve the cause of strengthening trust and mutual understanding between East and West.

However, The White House declared, that the United States retains the right to review its decision on participation in the Moscow human rights conference if, in its view, there is no further progress in the USSR in this area.

Northeast Asia

Mongolian Party Academic on 'Historical Truth'

PM0501153389 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 3 Jan 89 Second Edition p 3

[Interview with Doctor of Historical Sciences A. Minis, deputy director of the MPRP Central Committee's Institute of Social Sciences, by A. Mirov: "Restoring the True History: Mongolian Scientist A. Minis Comments on the Decisions of the MPRP Central Committee Plenum"; date not specified; first two paragraphs are editorial introduction]

[Text] Ulaanbaatar—The Fifth MPRP Central Committee Plenum, which ended on New Year's eve in Ulaanbaatar and which discussed urgent questions relating to the comprehensive restructuring of all aspects of Mongolian society's life, was one of the country's most significant events in recent decades. A report entitled "New Tasks of the MPRP's Party-Organizational and Ideological Work" was delivered at the plenum by J. Batmonh, general secretary of the MPRP Central Committee and chairman of the Presidium of the Mongolian People's Great Hural.

It is no exaggeration to say that the MPRP Central Committee's December plenum and the preparation for it really stirred Mongolian society. This is demonstrated, first and foremost, by the reaction of the republic's citizens to the party Central Committee Politburo's proposals on the restructuring of the country's political system, proposals submitted for nationwide discussion a month before the plenum began, by the stream of letters which flooded the mass media, and by the writers' broad social and age range. How do Mongolia's social scientists view this event? Doctor of Historical Sciences A. Minis,

deputy director of the MPRP Central Committee's Institute of Social Sciences, answered this question at SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA's request.

[Minis] The plenum examined the new tasks raised by life in the sphere of improving party organizational and ideological work. We note that researchers' approach to the history of the country's party has until now been dominated by dogmatism, the avoidance of awkward problems, and the depersonalization, distortion, and embellishment of historical processes. The plenum resolved to reexamine the history of the Mongolian state and the MPRP and to update history and social sciences textbooks for all educational institutions. It was stressed that the restoration of historical truth must be the underlying principle of this work.

Our institute's researchers have already taken the first steps in this direction. First, we have been highlighting the shortcomings existing in works in the sphere of party history. In this we are helped by scientific discussions and a free exchange of opinions involving a broad range of social scientists. We also invite party veterans to participate.

Recently the Mongolian press launched a broad discussion which made it possible to define the main approaches of Communists and all working people in the republic to problems of the critical reevaluation and objective reappraisal of the country's historical path. Mongolia, together with the Soviet people, the mass media emphasize, fully shared the tragedy of the personality cult. The mass repressions which began in September 1937 affected one-tenth of the republic's inhabitants. Many prominent party and state figures fell victim to the tyranny. They included Sukhe Bator's closest comrade-in-arms D. Dogsom, chairman of the People's Little Hural; A. Amar, former head of the Mongolian Government; and J. Lkhumbe, secretary of the MPRP Central Committee, in whose "case" 317 party and state figures, military servicemen, ordinary citizens, and many, many others were repressed.

We are still filling in only the initial "blank spots" in our country's history. But what has been done has made it possible to explain a lot. We need a truthful assessment of the influence of the Stalin period on the MPRP's activity. A similar approach is also needed in evaluating the activity of H. Choybalsan, who held power for a long time. It is obvious that the latter's personality cult is a product of the Stalin era [stalinshchina]. H. Choybalsan's unbridled power led to the dissemination in the country of methods based on command and injunction, the spread of a dogmatic approach to Marxist-Leninist theory, the stifling of creative thinking and initiative, and finally to a violation of the rule of law, which resulted in the death or infringement of the rights of a great many innocent people.

[Mirov] Judging from the central press, many Mongolian Communists are demanding the most rigorous and principled assessment of this period of Mongolian history. At the same time they point out that the tenacity of the H. Choybalsan personality cult is directly linked with the style of work of Y. Tsedenbal, who entered the country's top spheres of power thanks to the former's patronage, and led the party and the country for 40 years. They all agree that while making a real contribution to exposing the Choybalsan personality cult, Tsedenbal subsequently became an object of adoration himself. What is your opinion?

[Minis] The December Plenum objectively assessed Y. Tsedenbal's activity. While noting his services to building the socialist society in Mongolia, it also pointed to the ambiguity and contradictory nature of his role in our country's life. The plenum said that the progressive concentration of power in Tsedenbal's hands was matched by an increasingly marked deviation from principle in questions of party and state leadership and the formation of cadres, the denigration of the significance of collective leadership, high-handedness and deafness to the opinion of others, and a divergence between word and deed.

[Mirov] The Soviet Union and the other socialist countries are also conducting painstaking work to restore historical truth. Do you have any contacts with them?

[Minis] Yes, very close contacts. Our counterparts in the fraternal socialist countries have been giving us great theoretical and practical assistance. We are all united by the idea that the true history must be restored to people.

Mongolian Minister Visits, Meets With Rogachev

OW0401114289 Ulaanbaatar International Service in English 0910 GMT 4 Jan 89

[Text] Minister of Natural Environmental Protection of Mongolia Mablet, who is on a visit in the Soviet Union, has met and talked with Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Igor Rogachev. They discussed questions of bilateral cooperation in environmental protection as well as some recent ecological problems.

Southeast Asia & Pacific

Vietnamese Troops To Withdraw by September 1989

LD0601073189 Moscow TASS in English 0711 GMT 6 Jan 89

[Text] Hanoi January 6 TASS—To expedite the process of a political settlement of the Kampuchean problem all Vietnamese volunteer troops will be withdrawn from the People's Republic of Kampuchea (PRK) not later than September 1989.

This decision was reached on the basis of an agreement between the governments of Kampuchea and Vietnam, Ho Thi Lan, a spokesman for the Foreign Ministry of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam told foreign journalists today.

The forthcoming withdrawal should be accompanied with a cease-fire and renunciation of military aid and provision of territory for outside interference in the internal affairs of Kampuchea. The meeting of the aforegoing conditions should be ensured by effective international verification.

Biryukova, State Delegation Leave for Cambodia
PM0601104189 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 6 Jan 89 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "To Mark Anniversary"]

[Excerpt] A Soviet party and state delegation headed by A.P. Biryukova, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, left Moscow 4 January for Cambodia for the celebration of the 10th anniversary of the proclamation of the People's Republic of Kampuchea.

The delegation includes G.I. Ulanov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee, member of the CPSU Central Committee commission for questions of international policy, and first secretary of the Kaluga CPSU Obkom; G.S. Ostroumov, deputy chief of a CPSU Central Committee department; and R.L. Khamidulin, USSR ambassador to the People's Republic of Kampuchea. [passage omitted]

Philippines Ambassador Notes Improving Relations
LD0601113689 Moscow TASS in English 1129 GMT 6 Jan 89

[Text] Manila January 6 TASS—In the light of the improving Soviet relations with the United States and other countries, dhe Philippines must reconsider its outlived "cold war" approaches and assume a more flexible stand. This will make for the development of Filipino-Soviet relations on friendly lines, with due account for maximum mutual benefit and national interests, it was stated by the Filipino ambassador to the Soviet Union Alejandro Melchor, at a press conference arranged here by the Foreign Ministry of the Philippines.

Alejandro Melchor noted that decisions on many joint Filipino-Soviet ventures were formerly put off or brushed aside. Moreover, the United States had reportedly objected against several proposals, particularly against the repair of Soviet ships in Filipino docks and construction of a thermal power plant in the country.

The ambassador said that he was assured by the American side that no such objections would henceforth be made.

Near East & South Asia

Andrianov Comments on U.S.-Libyan Incident
LD0401235389 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1745 GMT 4 Jan 89

[From the "International Diary" program presented by Nikolay Agayants, with commentary by commentator Boris Andrianov]

[Text] Judging by information from Washington, the United States is adding greater and greater pressure to the Libyan situation. It is alleged that this country has already begun producing a limited number of chemical weapons at a factory which is being built 50 miles from the Libyan capital of Tripoli. This report was carried by the ASSOCIATED PRESS in particular, quoting an unnamed official U.S. representative. Charles Redman, representative of the State Department, also expressed himself in the same terms at his regular meeting with journalists. In the situation that has arisen concerning Libya, increased attention is being aroused by the approach to its shores of a major battle group of U.S. naval forces, headed by the Theodore Roosevelt, the very new atomic powered aircraft carrier. In its train there are two cruisers, six destroyers, a frigate, and three auxilary ships. Five landing craft are accompanying the squadron. On board are more than 4,000 naval infantry. Furthermore, more than half are members of assault sub-units. The Pentagon representative, answering the journalists' questions as to whether this signified preparation for a possible strike against Libya, stated "we never discuss future military operations, and I do not intend to deal with this question." This is why I am asking my colleague Boris Andrianov, commentator, to express his opinion about this matter. Let me give him my place at the microphone:

[Andrianov] The United States maintains permanent major naval forces in the Mediterranean. At the moment they number 23 ships, including the assault group headed by the aircraft carrier John F. Kennedy. The squadron, which last Friday left Norfolk, is approaching. With what aim? Several U.S. military people are attempting to construe the matter as though the increase of naval strength in this region of the Mediterranean is of a so-called duty patrol nature [dezhurniy kharakter]. Explanations of this type appear as the most mediocre disguise of Washington's genuine intentions.

The concentrated anti-Libyan campaign, which the United States has been pushing forward to a greater degree recently, reveal these intentions. Many mass media in Western Europe interpret the intentions of the Washington administration in almost the same way. For example, the French television company TF-1 expressed its opinion on the sending of additional U.S. squadrons to the Mediterranean. Passing comment on this transfer, it noted that the United States may attempt, before the arrival of a new President in the White House, to strike a blow against its age-old opponent Qadhdhafi, the

Libyan leader. There is a very serious basis for such suppositions. It is enough to remember the events that took place in April 1986. Then the Washington Administration at first accused Libya of participating in international terrorism, and then undertook a direct military escapade, subjecting the Libyan capital of Tripoli and the city of Banghazi to a barbaric bombing. Women, children, and the elderly were the major victims of that piratical action. I will say directly that the situation created by the United States of America around the Libyan Jamahiriyah is in many ways similar to the situation in April in 1986.

Again Washington has extended the economic blockade of this country in the south Mediterranean. Again, from beyond the ocean, threats to strike a blow on Libya have been heard. This time a pharmaceutical works, being constructed in the populated area of Rabitah, is being taken as the target. The United States asserts that this is an enterprise for the production of components of chemical weapons. Washington, they say, has decided before it is too late to destroy, in its embronic form, the Libyan chemical threat. It turns out that the elementary observance of international law, is not compulsory for the U.S. Administration. Such a provocative position is downright shocking to the world community. After all, if Washington really is concerned about the purpose of the above-mentioned pharmaceutical works, the why does it not meet Libya's proposal to inspect this enterprise? In this way it would be possible to convince oneself visually of the peaceful nature of its production. But no. Washington rejected from the very start, as the saying goes, the proposal to inspect. An inspection will show nothing, Charles Redman, State Department representative, recently stated to journalists. One gets the impression that the Washington Administration is categorically unwilling that the genuine truth be established, which might deprive it of even a very slight pretext for false attacks on Libya. Behind such unwillingness one guesses at an effort to count on the law of the fist, and to again resort to the notorious politics of the aircraft carrier. Here a natural question arises: Are they not already preparing in Washington to turn again to the policy of state terrorism? Is it not obvious that such actions cut across the principles which are being asserted in international relations as a result of the new political thinking, undermining the tendencies, which are growing in strength, to disarm, and threatening peace, not only in this region? All peace-loving forces of our planet, who condemn the intrigues of the United States against Libya, decisively demanding that the people of this sovereign country be left in peace, understand this.

Afghanistan's Wakil Leaves Moscow for Paris

LD0601102989 Moscow TASS in English 1023 GMT 6 Jan 89

[Text] Moscow January 6 TASS—Afghan Foreign Minister Abdul Wakil, who was on a stopover here en route from Kabul, today flew from Moscow to Paris where he will attend the international conference on chemical weapons.

British Paper Interviews Najibullah on Talks

LD0501151689 Moscow TASS in English 1511 GMT 5 Jan 89

[Text] London January 5 TASS—The Afghan leadership remains determined to keep open all possible avenues for negotiations, President Najibullah of Afghanistan has stated in an interview with London-based TIMES. "We are ready to hold talks with all groups who are interested in ensuring peace in the country. It makes no difference whether they are moderates, representatives of the Afghan refugees, supporters of Zahir Shah (the exiled king), or even those who are extremists, so long as they are interested in peace," he said.

Najibullah expressed full support for the efforts of Yuliy Vorontsov, the Soviet Union's first deputy foreign minister, and ambassador to Kabul, aimed at finding ways of a political settlement of the conflict.

Touching upon the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan, the Afghan leader said that "provided the other side fulfils its commitments under the Geneva accords," Soviet troops would be out of the country by February 15, as agreed.

At the same time Najibullah made it clear that if negotiation and compromise fail, his regime would fight on. He dismissed the view that the present Afghan Government would collapse after the Soviet withdrawal.

The Afghan president said that the crucial Salang Highway would be controlled by government troops after Soviet troops were pulled out.

BAKHTAR Outlines Cease-Fire Situation

LD0501201689 Moscow TASS in English 2005 GMT 5 Jan 89

[Text] Kabul January 5 TASS—The BAKHTAR news agency circulated on Thursday a report by the President's Office on the results of the first five days of this year, since the start of which the government declared a unilateral cease-fire.

According to information received from garrisons of Afghan troops, anti-government detachments at a bidding from abroad continued their armed operations in several areas of the country since the morning of January 1. As many as 18 civilians were killed and 39 wounded at the hands of insurgents in these five days.

Shelling of cities and villages, attacks on security posts and garrisons and attempts to cut roads forced the Afghan Armed Forces to retaliate to protect themselves and peaceful life of people. As a result of counterattacks of government troops, over 140 extremists were killed and great quantities of weapons, including antiaircraft missiles, rockets, trench mortars, grenade launcers, mountain guns [as received] and mines, were captured.

In the past period clashes were registered between opposition detachments due to differences in their approach to the ceasefire. 95 extremists were killed during internecine fights in the provinces of Baghlan, Herat, Parwan, Laghman, Zabol and Zhakardarah district [Kabul Province].

The report says with regret that some opposition leaders abroad and commanders of large armed detachments inside the country rejected the new peaceful move of the government. On the other side, some groups did not open fire in several Afghan provinces.

At present the Afghan Armed Forces were set the task of continuing the cease-fire with respect to such groups. At the same time tough and resolute measures should be taken to end subversive activities of extremist detachments violating these conditions during the five days. In case they do not resort to armed actions in future, the Afghan Army will stop combat operations against these detachments.

BAKHTAR reports that on Thursday detachments of the irreconcilable opposition were the first to open fire on and shell several villages and security posts in the provinces of Herat, Badghis, Qandahar, Baghlan, and Khowst District. Government units inflicted retaliatory strikes on extremists.

Kabul Notes Trade, Economic Pacts Signed
LD0501220189 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 5 Jan 89

[Text] Afghan Commerce Minister Muhammad Khan Jalalar, who leads an Afghan delegation on a visit to the Soviet Union, met yesterday with Vsevolod Serafimovich Murakovskiy, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and head of the State Agro-Industrial Committee. During this meeting, the two sides discussed Afghan-Soviet trade and economic cooperation and its further expansion, taking into account the various aspects of the implementation of the national reconciliation policy in Afghanistan.

According to a TASS report, Muhammad Khan Jalalar yesterday signed the documents on bilateral trade and economic cooperation for 1989 on behalf of the Government of the Republic of Afghanistan. The documents were signed on behalf of the Soviet Union by USSR Minister of Foreign Economic Relations Konstantin Katushev.

At the document-signing ceremony, Muhammad Khan Jalalar pointed out that the Soviet Union will continue its important role in the foreign exchanges and the development of Afghanistan. Based on these protocols, Afghanistan will receive from the USSR machines, equipment, vehicles, fuel, oil, electrical goods, and so on. In return, Afghanistan will export cotton, gas, and fruit to the USSR.

TASS says that the two sides also signed a number of credit and financial documents. Both countries attach great importance to measures aimed at developing new forms of bilateral business cooperation. Specifically, they signed a document according to which Afghan and Soviet organizations will promote the operation in the Soviet market of private Afghan companies and businessmen. They outlined a number of commodities to be included in the trade turnover between Soviet foreign trade organizations and the Afghan private sector. Thus, the USSR will deliver cars, timber, and food, including rice, sugar, and flour, as well as electric appliances. In turn, Afghan businessmen will sell to the Soviet side wool, lambskins, undressed hides, fruit, carpets, and handicraft articles.

Agreement was reached on further deliveries from the USSR of machinery and equipment for engineering and agricultural facilities of the Jalalabad irrigation complex by the end of 1990.

Full Publication of Afghan War Dead List Urged
PM0501121589 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 2 Jan 89 Morning Edition p 1

["Topical Letter" from engineer I. Timoshenko from Sverdlovsk: "Mention Each One By Name"]

[Excerpts] Sverdlovsk—Now, when the internationalists who served in Afghanistan are receiving open and real attention and concern (although, it seems, not everywhere, all the time, or in due measure), and when they have become a legal and real part of society, the disgraceful and insulting taboo of silence has also been lifted from the memory of those who died.

Perhaps in time granite monuments will be built with or without the actual surnames.

But it seems to me that it would be most appropriate if all those who died in Afghanistan were mentioned by name promptly and in a humanely noble way without waiting for granite or concrete monuments to be built. All of them by name, all in the same place, and all at the same time.

In prerevolutionary times it was customary for newspapers to publish lists of those who fell in action. Perhaps in our day this kind of prompt information about our losses is unacceptable for military and political reasons. But now that time has elapsed it is surely possible. And this must be done, each one must be remembered, beginning with the very first, perhaps making special mention of the first one, right through to the last, who should also be given special mention. [passage omitted]

Which newspaper is best suited to do this? Perhaps the military newspaper, KRASNAYA ZVEZDA. Or perhaps a different newspaper—everything must be thought through, but that is not the point. The important thing is this will be not only a list of names, which is also

necessary, one list for all. This will also be the first all-union memorial which may prove longer lasting and more impressive than even the tallest granite column.

Comparison of Kitsenko Article on Pakistan

Moscow PRAVDA in Russian on 4 January 1989 carries in its First Edition on page 4 the O. Kitsenko article on shifts in Pakistan's Afghanistan policy, entitled "A Trend Toward Realism: Pakistan's Problems and the Afghan Settlement." Comparison of the first edition with the second edition version, published in the 5 Jan Soviet Union DAILY REPORT, pages 21-23, reveals the following variations:

Page 22

Column a

Paragraph one, last sentence omitted in first edition: ...I saw these... through ...from the embrasures.

Paragraph two, last sentence omitted in first edition: ...It helped them... through ...and economic aid.

Page 22

Column b

Penultimate paragraph, first sentence reads in the first edition: ...It is therefore not surprising that the report on the meeting that began soon after this in Al-Ta'if (Saudi Arabia) between Yu.M. Vorontsov, USSR first deputy minister and USSR ambassador to Afghanistan, and a delegation from the Afghan opposition ("alliance of seven") also met with a very positive reaction in Pakistan. In commentaries after the meeting had ended, the press particularly highlighted the USSR envoy's words to the effect that the Soviet side sought to use these meetings and talks to give further impetus to the Afghan settlement, first and foremost in the cause of stopping the war, restoring peace in Afghanistan, and creating a broad-based government in that country.

These meetings, leading journalists noted... (picking up last paragraph, first sentence, substituting longer paragraph.)

Central Committee Greets Indian CP Congress

PM0501121889 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 27 Dec 88 Second Edition p 1

[CPSU Central Committee greetings to 13th Communist Party of India (Marxist) Congress]

[Text] To the 13th Communist Party of India (Marxist) [CPI(M)] Congress

Dear Comrades!

The CPSU Central Committee sends cordial greetings to the delegates to the 13th CPI(M) Congress.

Your congress is meeting at a crucial time for the world's destiny, when the responsibility of all the sociopolitical forces operating in each country and in the world arena is increasing to a tremendous degree. An active search is being made for paths to real disarmament, the further relaxation of tension, and the political resolution of regional conflicts.

At the same time the favorable processes in world development have not yet become irreversible. Therefore special significance attaches to the unification of all progressive forces, the democratic public, the leaders of states, large and small, and the Nonaligned Movement. For their part, the CPSU and the Soviet Union will work unremittingly in the name of these noble aims.

Our country's foreign policy course is organically linked with the revolutionary renewal of all aspects of the life of Soviet society. Restructuring, democratization, and glasnost are called upon to fully reveal the advantages of the socialist system.

People in our country well know of the CPI(M)'s persistent struggle for the working people's interests and of its contribution to the cause of preserving peace and the peoples' security and to strengthening Soviet-Indian friendship and cooperation.

We wish the CPI(M) successes in the struggle for peace, democracy, and social progress.

The CPSU Central Committee.

East Europe

Czechoslovak Deputy Minister Arrives in Moscow

LD0501204189 Prague CTK in English 1918 GMT 5 Jan 89

[Text] Moscow Jan 5 (CTK correspondent)—Czechoslovak First Deputy Premier, Chairman of the State Planning Commission Bohumil Urban arrived here today.

He will meet with Soviet Communist Party Politburo alternate member, First Deputy Premier and Chairman of the State Planning Committee Yuriy Maslyukov for talks on the extension of economic cooperation between the two states. They will set forth further steps in work on the coordination of national economic plans between Czechoslovakia and the Soviet Union for 1991-1995.

RUDE PRAVO Cited on 10 December Prague Rally
PM0501110989 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 25 Dec 88 Second Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Citizens Indignant"]

[Text] Prague, 24 Dec—The newspaper RUDE PRAVO carried an item today on the reaction of the capital's inhabitants to the rally of opposition groupings dedicated to the 40th anniversary of the proclamation of the Universal Declaration on Human Rights. The rally was held on 10 December in Prague's Third District.

The editorial office has received a considerable number of readers' letters in connection with this event, the newspaper wrote. As is well known, the district national committee authorized the holding of the rally on the condition that the organizers made themselves personally responsible for the course of the rally and observed the stipulated preconditions. However, as it later became clear, the content of the slogans and some of the speeches exceeded the limits of these accords and was directed against the socialist social system. This proved the true intentions of the organizers, who tried to turn the rally into political provocation.

The editorial mail on this subject expresses a common demand: Let us not allow our republic to be undermined!

Citizens' protests have been considered by the appropriate department of the district national committee. On 22 December its members held a meeting with the organizers of the action. They were frankly told that, as they failed to abide by the conditions on which the rally was authorized, in the future such events in this district of Prague would be considered undesirable.

Interest Expressed in Adamec Ecology Proposal
AU3012100088 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 28 Dec 88 p 1

["KD"-signed report: "Information Department of the USSR Council of Ministers: Czechoslovak Proposal Received With Great Interest"]

[Text] Moscow (Our Correspondent)— The Information Department of the USSR Council of Ministers passed on to the RUDE PRAVO Moscow correspondent the following standpoint on the proposal by CSSR Premier Ladislav Adamec to invite the premiers of the neighboring countries to Prague for an informal meeting to discuss cooperation in the ecological sphere:

"The Czechoslovak proposal for talks on ecological issues at the premier level was received with great interest in the Soviet Union. In many respects, the proposal corresponds with the line now being asserted in the USSR, the line aimed at protecting nature and the environment, and with the ideas voiced by Mikhail Gorbachev from the UN rostrum.

"The Soviet side wants to give not only its fundamental political answer to the proposal, but at the same time a concrete, pragmatic, and professionally worked out standpoint. The Czechoslovak proposal, which is considered in the USSR a very useful and beneficial initiative, is now being studied by Soviet experts so that we can give a well-substantiated and qualified answer."

Hungary's Grosz Interviewed on Renewal
PM0501111389 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 27 Dec 88 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Key Tasks. K. Grosz Interview"]

[Text] Budapest, 26 Dec—Today our most important ally, the Soviet Union, is in the front ranks of initiators of new forms of developing cooperation between states with different social systems. The significance of the USSR's foreign policy course, which is being pursued in the spirit of the new political thinking, extends far outside the country. MSZMP General Secretary K. Grosz declared this in an interview in the newspaper NEPSZABADSAG.

The Hungarian leader dwelt on key questions of the party's activity and on the internal political situation in the country. He said that activation has recently been observed in internal political life in Hungary, a search is being made for new paths of development, and the public is evincing a desire to make the process of renewal irreversible. This sets the party new tasks. Communists must display their abilities in conducting a political debate and in strengthening contacts with all sections of society.

The MSZMP is the leading force in Hungarian society, K. Grosz went on to point out. The party works, shows initiative, and thinks responsibly about the country's future. The party is currently drawing up a long-term program of its activity. There is no political force in Hungary today other than the MSZMP that possesses a concerted program, even to resolve the present tasks.

A critical analysis of the past and present, however, does not mean the abandonment of socialist values. The Hungarian people possess values without which socialism would lose its viability. These values must be developed and enriched. In this connection the MSZMP general secretary pointed to the importance of the determining role of public ownership and of the development of other forms of ownership on this basis in the interests of improving efficiency, as well as to the significance of the principles of socialist humanism, collectivism, patriotism, and internationalism.

Poland's Czyrek Receives USSR Order
PM0501094989 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 24 Dec 88 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Award Presented to J. Czyrek"]

[Text] Warsaw, 23 Dec—A ceremony was held at the USSR Embassy in Poland today to present the Order of the October Revolution to J. Czyrek, member of the

Politburo and secretary of the PZPR Central Committee, which he has been awarded for his contribution to developing friendship and cooperation between Poland and the Soviet Union and in connection with his 60th birthday.

Expressing gratitude for the high award, J. Czyrek emphasized that relations between the CPSU and the PZPR and between the peoples of the USSR and Poland have risen to unprecedented heights in recent years. This is being promoted by the alliance of restructuring in the Soviet Union and of socialist renewal in Poland, which is important for both parties and serves the cause of socialism. We will continue to strengthen Soviet-Polish friendship and to develop and deepen cooperation in all spheres of life.

Polish Delegation Attends Belorussia Events

LD3012210888 Warsaw Television Service in Polish 1830 GMT 30 Dec 88

[Excerpts] [Announcer] Celebrations of the 70th anniversary of the Belorussian Soviet Socialist Republic and the Communist Party of Belorussia are taking place in Minsk:

[Unidentified Reporter] A Polish party and state delegation headed by Jozef Czyrek, Politburo member and secretary of the PZPR Central Committee, is taking part in the ceremonies marking the 70th anniversary of the Soviet Belorussia. [passage omitted]

Yefrem Sokolov, first secretary of the Belorussia Communist Party Central Committee, met the Polish delegation. This morning the Polish guests visited an exhibition of economic achievements. [passage omitted]

A joint ceremonial session of the Supreme Soviet and the Belorussia Communist Party Central Committee was also held in Minsk today. Jozef Czyrek delivered a message to the hosts from the Polish state and party leadership signed by Wojciech Jaruzelski.

[Announcer] We read in the message, among other things that the process of retructuring in the Soviet Union and socialist renewal in Poland creates qualitatively new conditions for the development of friendship between Poland and Belorussia.

SED's Schabowski Awarded Friendship Order

PM0501114889 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 4 Jan 89 Second Edition p 2

["USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium Decree on the Award of the Order of the Peoples Friendship to Comrade Guenter Schabowski, Member of the Politburo and Secretary of the SED Central Committee and First Secretary of Berlin Bezirk SED Committee"]

[Text] For services to the cause of strengthening fratneral friendship and cooperation between the USSR and the GDR, and in connection with his 60th birthday, Comrade Guenter Schabowski, member of the Politburo and secretary of the SED Central Committee and first secretary of Berlin Bezirk SED Committee, is awarded the Order of the Peoples Friendship.

M. Gorbachev,

Chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium;

T. Menteshashvili,

Secretary of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. Moscow, Kremlin, 3 January 1989

SFRY's Suvar Replies to Jubilee Greetings

PM0501111589 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 27 Dec 88 Second Edition p 1

[LCY president's message thanking CPSU Central Committee for SFRY national day greetings]

[Text] To the CPSU Central Committee:

Dear comrades,

We cordially thank you for the congratulations and good wishes sent on the occasion of the SFRY national day.

We are confident that the profound social reforms being implemented in Yugoslavia and the USSR will help strengthen the principles of cooperation between our parties and countries and promote its further all-around development. Accept our wishes for the successful implementation of the policy of restructuring and of the 19th CPSU Conference decisions.

Stipe Suvar, president of the LCY Central Committee Presidium

West Europe

Yakovlev Delegation Begins Visit to FRG

Arrives in Frankfurt

LD0501125189 Moscow TASS in English 1243 GMT 5 Jan 89

[Text] Frankfurt am Main January 5 TASS—The delegation of the Soviet Communist Party led by Aleksandr Yakovlev, member of the Politburo and secretary of the party Central Committee, today arrived here to attend the Ninth Congress of the German Communist Party [DKP]. It was invited by the German Communist Party Board.

At the airport the delegation was met by Ellen Weber, deputy chairman of the German Communist Party, and Karl-Heinz Schroeder, member of the presidium and secretariat of the party board. Yuliy Kvitsinskiy, Soviet ambassador to West Germany, was among the welcoming party.

Yakovlev Meets Genscher

LD0501230989 Moscow TASS in English 2206 GMT 5 Jan 89

[Text] Wiesbaden, Hesse Land January 6 TASS—Aleksandr Yakovlev, a member of the Politburo and a secretary of the Soviet Communist Party Central Committee, who arrived here for a regular Ninth Congress of the German Communist Party, met on Thursday with FRG Vice-Chancellor and Minister for Foreign Affairs Hans-Dietrich Genscher.

Some general questions of consistent improvement of the world situation, further European stabilisation and deepening of relations between the USSR and the FRG were touched upon during the conversation which was held in the spirit of openness and mutual understanding.

Further on Genscher, Other Talks

LD0501230589 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1800 GMT 5 Jan 89

[From the "Vremya" newscast; report by V. Kondratyev]

[Text] Comrade Yakovlev's first meetings and introductions in West Germany land took place at the airport. DKP Deputy Chairman Ellen Weber and Karl-Heinz Schroeder, a member of the party's leadership, having warmly greeted the Soviet delegation, noted the increased authority of Soviet policy in the Federal Republic thanks to our country's initiatives in the disarmament sphere. [video shows Yakovlev and (?Weber) in friendly conversation; Yakovlev seated among a group of people with (?Weber) on his right engaged in a discussion]

Comrade Yakovlev said he was pleased to come again to the FRG. He was last in this country in 1970 in connection with the 150th anniversary of Engels' birth. Much has changed for the better since those times, in particular as regards cooperation between the Communists and Social Democrats in the struggle for peace and democratic transformations. Aleksandr Nikolayevich Yakovlev wished the West German Communists success in carrying out their congress in a constructive and businesslike spirit. The congress will be opened tomorrow. [video shows more shots of the discussion]

This afternoon in Wiesbaden Comrade Yakovlev met Hans-Dietrich Genscher, FRG vice chancellor and foreign affairs minister—a politician who has continually called for taking advantage of the great opportunities opening in European and world politics as a result of the new thinking. [video shows a city street; Yakovlev and Genscher shaking hands; Yakovlev shaking hands with another unidentified man; Genscher and Yakovlev seated in easy chairs talking through an interpreter; meeting being filmed; a caption of a city street]

At the beginning of the discussion Genscher noted that the FRG Government is attentively following events in the Armenian earthquake zone. The FRG public, he said, is participating in this as if it were a catastrophe in our own country. The discussion dealt mainly with topical problems concerning the process of relaxation of tension and disarmament and with Soviet-West German relations. Hope was expressed for completing the Vienna meeting—which will open a path toward talks on conventional weapons—as early as this month. The discussion emphasized the favorable development of bilateral dialogue, to which Comrade Gorbachev's visit to the FRG, now under preparation, will impart a new and important impetus.

Aleksandr Nikolayevich Yakovlev briefed the minister on the process of restructuring in the Soviet Union.

Yakovlev Attends DKP Congress Opening

LD0601100289 Moscow TASS in English 0925 GMT 6 Jan 89

[Text] Frankfurt am Main January—The Ninth Congress of the German Communist Party began its work here today. West German Communists are to give answers to involved issues put by the present watershed age.

The three-day congress in Frankfurt am Main is an important milestone in this collective quest and the work of the Marxist party of the West German working class. About 800 delegates will discuss a report by the party's board, elect a new leadership of the German Communist Party and map out a programme of action for the near term.

The delegates accorded a warm welcome to the forum's foreign guests. The German Communist Party is the party of deep-rooted internationalist traditions. Representatives of some 40 fraternal parties arrived in Frankfurt am Main. Among them the delegation of the CPSU led by Aleksandr Yakovlev, member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

FRG Radio's Prisoner of Conscience Charge Denied

PM0501160389 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 4 Jan 89 p 3

[Article for KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA by APN observer V. Ostrovskiy: "Don't Chase the Wave"]

[Text] Deutsche Welle broadcast a staggering piece of news just the other day: According to the figures of the International Human Rights Society, based in Frankfurt-am-Main, 431 prisoners of conscience are presently recorded in the Soviet Union, although, as the radio station pointed out, their number is probably far higher in reality.

After hearing this broadcast by the German radio station I asked the USSR Ministry of Internal Affairs to comment on the figures cited. The official response was terse: "There are no so-called 'prisoners of conscience' in the Soviet Union today."

"Perhaps there are prisoners sentenced for a cumulation of crimes [po sovokupnosti], for instance, for crimes having no connection with the profession of religious faith and a crime coming under Article 227 of the RSFSR Criminal Code?" I pursued.

"Only one person is serving a term of imprisonment for a cumulation of crimes. That is A. Grigoryev, who was sentenced to 7 years of imprisonment under Articles 224 and 227. His term of imprisonment comes to an end in 1993," Yu.I. Kalinin, chief of a USSR MVD Administration, said.

Let us make it clear that Article 224 of the RSFSR Criminal Code provides for punishment under criminal law for the illegal manufacture, acquisition, storage, transportation, or sale of narcotics. Judging by the term of imprisonment to which A. Grigoryev was sentenced, the crime he committed comes under the aforementioned act, for which those found guilty of such crimes are punished by imprisonment of up to 10 years. As for Article 227, it defines a criminal offense as encroachment on the person and the right of citizens under the guise of performing religious ceremonies. Those convicted under it are punished by imprisonment for up to 5 years. Thus A. Grigoryev can in no way be categorized a so-called "prisoner of conscience."

Why, then, did the human rights society in Frankfurt-am-Main need to put a fabricated figure out on the air? We have on more than one occasion reported the number of ordinary criminals held under Article 227 to Western representatives when discussing humanitarian problems and human rights. We now have no such prisoners in our country.

Some people, mostly in NATO circles, are reluctant to give a proper response, for example, to Soviet peace initiatives designed to reduce troops and conventional armaments. They are once again trying the old method of substituting a nonexistent problem for a real one.

Latin America & Caribbean

Vorotnikov-Led Delegation Holds Havana Talks

Meets Cuba's Ventura

LD0501023889 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1845 GMT 4 Jan 89

[Text] Havana, 4 Jan (TASS)—A meeting was held here today between the Soviet party and government delegation led by V.I. Vorotnikov, CPSU Central Committee Politburo member and RSFSR Supreme Soviet Presidium chairman; and Jose Ramon Machado Ventura.

During a thorough conversation, the sides exchanged information on the course of restructuring in the USSR and the process of correction of mistakes and liquidation of negative tendencies in the development of Cuba, and discussed various aspects of the contemporary international situation and topical matters of bilateral cooperation. The conversation took place in a cordial, fraternal atmosphere, characteristic of relations between the Soviet Union and Cuba.

The same day the Soviet delegation laid a wreath at the memorial to V.I. Lenin, which is established in the Havana park bearing the name of the leader of the world proletariat.

Attends Anniversary Celebrations

LD0501234589 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1800 GMT 5 Jan 89

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Excerpts] Celebrations of the 30th anniversary of the victory of the Cuban revolution continue in Havana. This is a sacred place on Cuban soil: the majestic first monument in the Western Hemisphere to Vladimir Ilich Lenin. Against the broad backdrop of the tropical sky, we see a grove of young pine trees: 118 of them. By tradition every year, on the anniversary of the birth of Ilich, another little evergreen is added here in Lenin Park.

A wreath was laid on the monument by a Soviet party and government delegation led by Vitaliy Ivanovich Vorotnikov, which is taking part in the celebrations of the 30th anniversary of the Cuban revolution. In the cordial fraternal atmosphere characteristic of relations between our country and Cuba, meetings were held between the USSR delegation and the leaders of the Cuban state. Matters of bilateral cooperation, as well as various aspects of the current international situation, were discussed in a conversation with Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, member of the Cuban Communist Party Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the Republic's Councils of State and Ministers. [passage omitted]

Fidel Castro, other Cuban state leaders, and heads of the foreign delegations, Comrade Vorotnikov among them, inspected the jubilee exhibition that tells what the Cuban people have achieved in 3 decades of building a new life. A festive meeting of many thousands was devoted to the 30th anniversary of the Cuban revolution and to the official opening of the Cuban Expo. On the platform were the many foreign guests who arrived for the festival. The party and government delegation led by Comrade Vorotnikov was present.

A major speech summing up the results of the republic's development in the past 3 decades and setting guidelines for the future was delivered by Fidel Castro Ruz. He emphasized that Cuba resolutely supports the policy of peace and easing international tension being pursued by the Soviet Union. Of historic and strategic importance, said the leader of the Cuban revolution, is Comrade Gorbachev's speech at the United Nations, in which he

proposed, among other outstanding measures, a 100-year moratorium on payment of the external debt. This was a big step toward establishing a new international economic order giving the developing countries an encouraging opportunity.

Vorotnikov, Castro Meet 5 Jan

LD0601034589 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0255 GMT 6 Jan 89

[Moscow TASS International Service in Russian at 0403 GMT on 6 January carries a service message killing last paragraph]

[Text] Havana, 6 Jan (TASS)—Fidel Castro, first secretary of the Cuban Communist Party Central Committee and chairman of the State Council and the Council of Ministers of the Republic, yesterday received V.I. Vorotnikov, CPSU Central Committee Politburo member and chairman of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet Presidium who is heading the Soviet party and government delegation here for the celebration of the 30th anniversary of the Cuban revolution.

In the course of the meeting, a detailed exchange of views took place on a wide range of questions of Soviet-Cuban cooperation. F. Castro and V.I. Vorotnikov also discussed certain aspects of the current international situation.

The head of the Soviet delegation briefed the Cuban leader in detail on the progress of restructuring in the Soviet Union, implementation of the political and economic reforms, and the results of the development of the USSR's national economy in the past year.

The conversation took place in a cordial, fraternal atmosphere, which is typical of the relations between the USSR and Cuba.

On the same day, the Soviet party and government delegation familiarized itself with one of the Western Hemisphere's largest centers of biotechnology and genetic engineering in Havana. The delegation's members signed the visitors book of the scientific and research center.

Yu.V. Petrov, member of the CPSU Central Committee and USSR ambassador to the Republic of Cuba, gave an official reception in honor of the Soviet party and government delegation's visit here. Present were Jorge Risquet, member of the Politburo and Secretariat of the Cuban Communist Party Central Committee; Vilma Espin, member of the Politburo of the Cuban Communist Party Central Committee and chairwoman of the Federation of Cuban Women; as well as Lionel Soto and Jaime Crombet, members of the Cuban Communist Party Central Committee Secretariat.

Cuban Writer Denies Differences With USSR

PM0501123389 Moscow SOVETSKAYA KULTURA in Russian 1 Jan 89 p 7

[Interview with Miguel Barnet, secretary of the Cuban Union of Writers and Cultural Figures Presidium, by TASS correspondent Sergey Sereda in Havana, especially for SOVETSKAYA KULTURA under the rubric "Today is Cuba's Liberation Day National Holiday": "Miguel Barnet: A Cuban—This Is Heard With Pride"; date not given]

[Excerpt] Havana—[Passage omitted] [Sereda] Recently rumors have been whipped up in the West about "differences" between Cuba and the Soviet Union. What do you think about this?"

[Barnet] The surge of solidarity with the Soviet people which occurred in Cuba after the Armenian tragedy can serve as the answer here. I live two steps away from the central Havana blood transfusion center. Literally the day after the Cubans found out what had happened, a huge line of people wanting to give blood to help those injured in the earthquake formed. You can look out of the window even now, and you will certainly see a group of willing donors.

I am worried by claims made by Western radio stations that the Soviet Union is imposing its culture on Cuba. This is a lie. We very much love the Soviet people, who historically have been the bearers of important human values.

All Cubans are awaiting with great impatience the Soviet leader's visit to our country which was postponed because of the tragic events in Armenia. We hope that Mikhail Gorbachev will visit Cuba when possible. [passage omitted]

Political & Social

Afghan Incident in Tashkent Described

PM0501142189 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 5 Jan 89 p 1

[Correspondent M. Alimov report under the rubric "According to Rumors and With Authority": "Tashkent. Beginning of January"]

[Text] Tashkent, 4 Jan—Yesterday Uzbek republic newspapers carried a brief report—just three paragraphs—by the republic's news agency: "On 1 January hooligan elements from among the Afghan citizens studying in Tashkent started a brawl in the region of the kolkhoz market while in a state of intoxication from alcohol and narcotics, throwing stones at passing motor vehicles and pedestrians. The excesses resulted in the accidental death of a 6-month-old infant, while 8 Soviet citizens and 11 Afghans sustained bodily harm of varying degrees of severity and were hospitalized.

"The disturbances were stopped thanks to the efforts of militiamen and the public of the city. The situation is under control. The violators of Soviet laws and moral norms will receive the appropriate punishment.

"It must be pointed out that what happened cannot affect the relations of friendship between the Soviet and Afghan peoples, which are tending toward further improvement and strengthening."

The report in no way calmed anxious public opinion, and still less did it erect a reliable barrier to the most incredible and monstrous rumors flooding Tashkent today.

So what really happened on the snowless evening of 1 January in the capital of Uzbekistan?

It all started when about 30 husky guys, flushed by liquor—students on 2-month retraining courses—turned up in the Starogorodskiy market, located next to the Moskva Hotel. There is nothing reprehensible in the fact that our country gives the Afghan people all-around assistance, including in the training of cadres.

As has now been established, many of the students had come to the market on that ill-fated evening not to buy things. They melted into the crowd and, according to eyewitness reports, began a brisk trade in all sorts of foreign trifles: cigarette lighters, fashionable sunglasses... Of course, the prices were exorbitant. In a fit of temper someone rebuked the youths, saying that they should not swell the ranks of Tashkent speculators during difficult days.

Clearly, this was one of the chief causes of the conflict. Incidentally, it had been ripening for many years. I myself have repeatedly seen other foreign students in the Starogorodskiy "flea market"—specialists and people on courses, shamelessly speculating in all kinds of scarce goods.

"Such compatriots cause me great shame and pain," Mohammad Kazim, a graduate of the journalism faculty of Tashkent's V.I. Lenin University and an old acquaintance of mine, once said to me when the conversation turned to this topic.

The truth is that the overwhelming majority of Afghan youths studying in the Uzbek capital do so conscientiously, preparing for complex and very difficult work at home. But unpredictable people also find their way here to study. It is they who were to blame for the disturbances in Tashkent.

...It was about 1700 when a brawl flared up in the "flea market." The "injured parties" began insulting passers-by. It is to the militiamen's honor that they were prompt in reaching the "hot" spot. After calming down the rowdies, they sent them by bus to hostels located on the outskirts of the city.

It was there that the conflict flared up the most. In an instant the "injured" students roused their mates, who without getting to the bottom of who was really to blame for what had happened, began breaking furniture and smashing windows, then running out onto the parade ground. I do not know how the matter would have ended if the local organs had not taken decisive and well-considered measures.

Another group of students, including several who were high on hashish, ran out onto the road from the other side and perpetrated a pogrom at a State Automobile Inspectorate post. Not content with that, they began stopping passing vehicles. Many drivers were forced to brake because Afghans who had lost control of themselves were jumping onto the hood or lying down on the asphalt....

In all, approximately 20 vehicles were damaged, and 4 of them, according to preliminary data, were burned out. Most terribly, however, quite innocent people suffered. Journalists were told at the republican Health Ministry that 16 people, including 7 Afghan citizens, were hospitalized. Yesterday 34-year-old S. Sagdiyev and 33-year-old Kh. Ibragimov died in the hospital from serious traumas. Sh. Ergasheva, a kindergarten worker, is also in critical condition. The life of an Afghan student who threw himself under a moving vehicle is also seriously threatened....

These are the sad statistics....

The investigation will establish how such a thing was possible. Then, obviously, it will be possible to speak of the tragedy in greater detail.

I honestly admit: It took me a long time to decide to send this bitter report to the editorial office. I thought: What if this was a provocation deliberately organized by enemies of the Soviet and Afghan peoples? For these tragic events were played out in Tashkent precisely on 1 January, when the cease-fire decision unilaterally announced by the Afghan Government came into effect. It happened on the eve of a long-awaited event—the withdrawal of the limited contingent of Soviet troops from Afghanistan. But even if this is so, the perfidious scheme did not succeed. The friendship of the Soviet and Afghan people has been tested in many grim trials, and no one has yet succeeded in blackening it.

Afghan Consul Expresses Regret

LD0501144989 Moscow TASS in English 1430 GMT 5 Jan 89

[Text] By TASS Correspondent Iskander Khisamov:

"The regrettable incident which occurred on the New Year's day in the streets of Tashkent by no means reflects the state of relations between the Soviet Union and Afghanistan", Ghulam Hazrat Hamgar, Afghan consul-general in Tashkent, stated during his appearance on Uzbek television late on Wednesday night.

On the day of the celebration of the New Year several tens of Afghan citizens who study in Tashkent, capital of the Soviet Central Asian Republic of Uzbekistan, in a state of alchoholic and narcotic intoxication, kicked up a row near Oktyabrskiy market.

As a result of a preliminary investigation it was established that the incident was caused by the hooligans' accosting women as well as by conflicts that arose owing to small speculative deals between Afghan and Soviet citizens.

Militia personnel localised the incident. It was decided to bus the Afghan citizens to their place of study. However, when boarding the buses, the Afghans resisted and threw stones at transport vehicles and passers-by. Upon arriving at their place of study the hooligan group provoked compatriots, a portion of whom were also in a state of intoxication, to fresh rioting. They blockaded the Tashkent ring road. The hooligans stopped and tried to set fire top motor vehicles. They managed to destroy four and to damage 17 motor vehicles.

A six-month-old baby died as a result of their actions. Eight Soviet citizens, among them servicemen who were performing their official duty, sustain bodily injuries of varying degrees. Some of them were hospitalized. Eleven Afghan citizens sustained injuries, too.

An investigation is now under way. Staff members of the Afghan Embassy and of the Afghan Ministry of the Interior who arrived in Tashkent are taking part in the investigation.

The Afghan consul-general expressed regret over the incident. "The instigators of the conflict will receive severe punishment," Ghulan Hazrat Hamgar said during his appearance on Uzbekistan television.

Central Committee Proposals for Stalin's Victims

PM0601111989 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 6 Jan 89 Second Edition p 1

["At the CPSU Central Committee. 'On Supplementary Measures To Restore Justice With Regard to the Victims of Repressions That Took Place in the Period of the Thirties, Forties, and at the Beginning of the Fifties'"—PRAVDA headline]

[Text] The Central Committee of the CPSU in the decision passed on this question notes that documentary data, the experience of rehabilitation accumulated both immediately after the 20th and 22nd congresses of the CPSU and in most recent times indisputably bears witness to the fact that in the period of the thirties, forties, and the beginning of the fifties the practice of mass repressions and arbitrary rule was carried on. Specially created nonjudicial organs, the so-called troiskas, special meetings and also the practice of drawing up and approving lists of people to be repressed became the height of the lawlessness.

This practice had tragic consequences for hundreds of thousands of Soviet people, has had a ruinous effect on socioeconomic development of the country; and established in people's consciousness an attitude of contempt for the norms of law and for human life. Serious damage was done to the progress of Soviet society and the cause of socialism and the prestige of the party. The restoration of historical and legal justice has now acquired enormous political significance. Our progress on the road to forming a socialist state based on the rule of law, and the development of social consciousness depends in many ways on it.

The complete rehabilitation of all who were unjustifiably repressed, and the perpetuation of their memory are expected by the public and by the relatives and close friends of the victims.

The CPSU Central Committee decided to submit for consideration by the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet a proposal: to set aside, through a legislative act, the extrajudicial verdicts reached during the thirties, forties, and early fifties by the three-man commissions and special meetings [troykami, osobymi soveshchaniyami] that were then operating; to regard all citizens who were repressed by the verdicts of these bodies as rehabilitated; at the same time, to acknowledge that these measures do not apply to traitors to the motherland and

members of the punitive squads [karateli] during the Great Patriotic War, to Nazi criminals, those who were members of nationalists gangs and formations and their accomplices, to staff working on the falsification of criminal cases, and to persons who committed premeditated murders and other criminal acts. The legally established procedure of appeal against, and review of, the verdicts and other decisions reached must operate in the case of these categories.

The CPSU Central Committee considers it essential to speed up the examination, in accordance with the legally established procedure, of the criminal cases against those who were condemned by judicial bodies during the years of repression.

To ensure work to compensate, according to the established procedure, for the material losses suffered by those rehabilitated, and to notify their relatives.

The CPSU Central Committee supported a proposal by the Soviet public for the creation under kray, oblast and town soviets of people's deputies and the supreme soviets of autonomous and union republics of commissions made up of people's deputies and public representatives to give assistance to soviet bodies in ensuring the rights and interests of those rehabilitated, creating monuments to the victims of the repressions and also maintaining their places of burial in the appropriate order.

Politburo Discusses Local Elections, Price Laws

LD0601110989 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 5 Jan 89 Second Edition p 1

["At the CPSU Central Committee Politburo"—PRAVDA headline]

[Text] The CPSU Central Committee Politburo, at a session held 5 January, examined the nominations of candidates for people's deputy of the USSR from the CPSU put forth by the Central Committees of the Communist parties of the union republics, party kraykoms and obkoms, and those received directly by the CPSU Central Committee from primary party organizations and Communists. It was noted that the candidate selection process is of a democratic nature and is proceeding from below. Many party organizations are actively involved. Communists are receiving broad support in proving by action their commitment to the restructuring and their ability to work in a new way. The participants decided to present the nominations for examination by a CPSU Central Committee plenum to be held 10 January.

The Politburo examined proposals from the USSR Council of Ministers on measures for overcoming shortcomings in existing price setting practice. The proposed measures are aimed at overcoming negative trends caused by the growth of prices on items for production, technical purposes, goods, and services at a rate above that of the improvement of their technical and economic parameters, consumer properties, and qualities, and against cuts in the production of inexpensive goods for which there is a demand that are contrary to the population's interests. It was deemed essential to enhance the role of state orders in forming socially low prices, particularly for goods for children and older people. The application of temporary surcharges to the prices of improved quality goods and of contractual prices for new items is being regulated.

Note was made of the need to createe, within the framework of the USSR Law on Cooperatives, organizational and economic conditions for increasing output and improving the quality of the items produced by cooperatives and for bringing their prices closer to state prices. Priority in material and technical supply and in the granting of credit, tax, and other advantages will be given to cooperatives that market their products at prices not above state prices, fulfil state orders, or work on direct contracts with state enterprises or organizations.

It is planned to expand the rights of local soviets of people's deputies to establish maximum markups for the products of public catering cooperatives, giving due consideration to the standard of service, and in conformity with the size of the markup existing in state restaurants and cafes of the relevant category.

Attention was drawn to the need to intensify price controls on the part of the USSR State Committee for Prices and its local bodies, soviets of people's deputies, and people's control bodies, trade unions, and consumer societies and clubs.

A discussion took place at the Politburo on the USSR draft law on production quality and the protection of consumers' rights. It was noted that the legal norms contained in the draft are of considerable importance for organizing work to raise the quality of production. The fact that broad rights of consumers are enshrined and conditions are created in the draft law for the active participation of the working people in improving the quality of goods is of fundamental importance. The provisions contained in the draft of the new law considerably change the practice of setting, assessing, and checking production quality, ensure intensification of the dependence of price on product quality, extend the rights of the purchaser and intensify material responsibility for damage caused by poor quality production. The draft is founded on the principles of the democratization of the most important aspects of Soviet activity, one of which is the rights of citizens to create, on a voluntary basis, consumer societies, which are intended to extend considerably the opportunities for safeguarding their legitimate interests in the consumption sphere.

The results of Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev's conversation with Herbert Mies, chairman of the German Communist Party [DKP], which proceeded in an atmosphere of comradely respect and deep mutual understanding that is characteristic of relations between the

CPSU and the DKP, were approved. It was noted that both parties actively favor developing to the utmost cooperation between the USSR and the FRG and turning Europe into a continent of peace, goodneighborliness, and mutual understanding.

Electoral Campaign for Peoples Deputies Continues

Armenia Nominates Gorbachev, Others

LD0501194389 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 5 Jan 89

[Text] The electoral campaign continues throughout the country. An expanded session of the Politburo of the Central Committee of the Armenian Communist Party has taken place.

The Politburo decided to submit to the CPSU Central Committee a proposal, nominating as candidates for election as USSR people's deputies from the republican party organization: Comrade Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet; Comrades Ryzhkov, Slyunkov, and Yakovlev, members of he Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee; and Comrade Mkrtchyan, first secretary of the Leninakan Town Committee of the Armenian Communist Party.

Sakharov Proposed in Leningrad

LD0501171289 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1639 GMT 5 Jan 89

[Text] Leningrad, 5 Jan (TASS)—Academician Andrey Sakharov has received an absolute majority of votes at a meeting of those employed by the Leningrad Ivan Pavlov Physiology Institute of the USSR Academy of Sciences. Today this collective put forward the candidacies of those who want to become people's deputies of the USSR. Out of the 216 people present, only 39 preferred Sakharov's competitors: Academicians Vladimir Govyrin, who is in charge of the Physiology Institute and Zhores Alferov, director of the Physics and Technical Institute. All the candidacies have been put forward on behalf of the USSR Academy of Sciences as a public organization. The new Soviet laws on elections provide for the country's association of scientific personnel to be able to put forward 75 deputies.

Even though Andrey Sakharov was not present at the Physiology Institute meeting, those who took the floor here voiced the view that his opinions and civic stance are sufficiently well known for him to be regarded as capable of defending the cause of restructuring and renewal in Soviet society.

Muslim Candidate in Tajikistan

LD0501164289 Moscow TASS in English 1635 GMT 5 Jan 89

[Text] Dushanbe January 5 TASS—For the first time in Soviet Central Asia a Muslim dignitary has been nominated to stand in general elections.

The man is Akbar Kakharov, chief qadi of Tajikistan, one of 15 Soviet constituent republics.

He was chosen as a candidate to run in the race for seats on the Congress of People's Deputies of the USSR by the Tajikistan branch of the Soviet Peace Fund, an influential social organization, at a plenary meeting here.

Kakharov, 35, is a member of the branch's board and his name was included on the list for voting on a proposal by Muslims active in the Peace Fund.

The religious community led by him are enthusiastic supporters of the perestroyka reform drive in this country as well as Soviet foreign policy initiatives with regard for developing countries.

The charitable activity and peace campaigning of local Muslims led by the qadi are respected by people in Tajikistan.

Kakharov, who has graduated from the Shariat Department of Jordan University and made a pilgrimage to Mecca, is held in high esteem in the theological and Islamic quarters of different countries.

The fact that a representative of the Muslim clergy was nominated to stand in general elections is seen here not only as a consequence of the changed attitude of the Soviet public and the state to the church but also as evidence of the reality of democratic norms formulated in the new law on elections.

Speaking in a TASS interview, Kakharov said that should he be elected, he will be upholding the interests of his brothers in faith and members of other confessions in Tajikistan.

He said that he sees his task also in increasing the peace activity of different forces, including those represented in the Islamic Conference Organization.

Baku Commandant Issues Situation Notices

Peace Prevails 4 Jan

NC0501191589 Baku Domestic Service in Azeri 1700 GMT 4 Jan 89

[Notice by Colonel General Tyagunov, military commandant of the Baku City Special District]

[Text] The military command headquarters of the Baku City Special District announces that peace prevailed in the city during the day.

[Signed] Colonel General Tyagunov, military commandant of the Baku City Special District.

5 Jan Notice on Curfew Hours

NC0501192089 Baku Domestic Service in Azeri 1700 GMT 5 Jan 89

[Order No. 14 by Colonel General Tyagunov, military commandant of the Baku City Specia District, dated 5 January 1989]

[Text] Recently, the situation in Baku Special District has stabilized, and daily life and work have become normal. Through a joint effort, the party and soviet organs, trade unions, and komsomol organizations are waging a consistent struggle against those who violate law and order. The great majority of the people are understanding and supporting the measures that have been put into effect to strengthen organization, discipline, and public law and order.

Taking into consideration the request made by the government organs and the collectives in Baku, proceeding with the intention of allowing cultural establishments to resume work, and creating the conditions required for those who work on (?third) shifts, I order the following:

1. The curfew in the Baku Special District be imposed from 2300 to 0500 as of 10 January 1989.

2. Performances and sports activities in movie theaters, concert halls, and drama theaters be concluded by 2130.

[Signed] Colonel General Tyagunov, military commandant of the Baku City Special District.

R2 Billion Allocated for Armenian Construction

NC0501124889 Yerevan International Service in Armenian 1630 GMT 4 Jan 89

[Text] Rescue work is continuing in the areas damaged by the earthquake. The devastated villages are being rehabilitated. The Soviet Government has allocated R2.17 billion, which is more than $3.5 billion, for this purpose.

Latvian Popular Front Registration in Dispute

AU0501142689 Paris AFP in English 1412 GMT 5 Jan 89

[Text] Moscow, Jan 5 (AFP)—A dispute has erupted in the Baltic state of Latvia over the registration of a non-official movement with widespread local support, the Popular Front.

Last Saturday's edition of the daily SOVETSKAYA LATVIYA, reaching here Thursday, said that the Latvian prosecutor's office had demanded the suspension of the Popular Front's registration pending changes to the movement's statutes.

The Popular Front was officially registered by a Justice Ministry commission on December 21, almost two months after the movement held its founding congress.

The prosecutor charged, in a protest to the Latvian Council of Ministers, that certain articles which did not conform to the Latvian and Soviet Constitution must be changed before the Popular Front could be officially recognised.

But Latvian Foreign Ministry official Albert Liyepa told AFP that on Thursday, the republic's top state authority, the presidium of the supreme soviet, decided that no changes were needed and that the registration could go ahead.

Mr. Liyepa said the dispute had arisen because the prosecutor had acted "formally" according to the 1977 Constitution, which was amended by the Supreme Soviet in Moscow at the end of November.

He said the prosecutor had "not taken into account the existing situation arising out of perestroyka (restructuring)".

One of the articles concerned, according to Mr. Liyepa, proclaimed that the Popular Front was a "social and political movement". The prosecutor had challenged this presentation on the grounds that the only legal political party in the Soviet Union is the Communist Party.

The Latvian Popular Front, like similar movements in neighbouring Estonia and Lithuania, is pushing for greater republican autonomy.

But Popular Front members will not be allowed to stand as deputies for the new legislature to be elected next March. Only organisations with nationwide membership are permitted to run for political office.

Latvian Central Committee Holds Plenum

LD0501172389 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 5 Jan 89

[Text] A plenum of the Latvian Communist Party Central Committee was held today in Riga. A report on progress in carrying out the decisions of the 19th All-Union CPSU Conference and on urgent tasks of restructuring was given by Vagris, first secretary of the republican Communist Party Central Committee.

Great attention was devoted to questions of improving interethnic relations. It was stressed that the Latvian Communist Party and all progressive forces in the republic oppose self-isolation and separatism.

The plenum formed commissions of the republican Communist Party Central Committee.

An electoral address to Communists and all working people in the Latvian SSR was adopted.

Estonian Plenum Elects New Party Secretary

PM0501124789 Tallinn SOVETSKAYA ESTONIYA in Russian 8 Dec 88 p 1

[ETA "Information Report": "Estonian Communist Party Central Committee Plenum"]

[Text]The 12th Estonian Communist Party Central Committee plenum was held in Tallin on 7 December.

The plenum was opened by V. Vyalyas, first secretary of the Estonian Communist Party Central Committee.

There was a minute's silence in respect for the memory of B.I. Klauson, former member of the Estonian Communist Party Central Committee Bureau, deputy of the USSR Supreme Soviet and Estonian SSR Supreme Soviet of many convocations, and former chairman of the Estonian SSR Council of Ministers, who died on 5 December.

Organizational issues were discussed.

The plenum released B. Saul from his duties as member of the Estonian Communist Party Central Committee Bureau in connection with his transfer to the position of USSR trade representative in the GDR. I. Toome was released from his duties as secretary of the Estonian Communist Party Central Committee in connection with his appointment as chairman of the Estonian SSR Council of Ministers.

There followed the election of an Estonian Communist Party Central Committee secretary. On behalf of the Estonian Communist Party Central Committee Bureau and the first secretaries of the party gorkoms and raykoms, V. Vyalyas nominated M. Titma, acting director of the Estonian SSR Academy of Sciences Institute of Philosophy, Sociology, and Law.

The plenum was addressed by the following: P. Goryunov, adjuster at the Tartu Instrument-Making Plant; E. Grechkin, Estonian Communist Party Central Committee deputy chief of courses; T. Laak, first secretary of the Tartu Party Gorkom; V. Udam, chairman of the Estonian SSR Supreme Soviet Commission on the Agro-Industrial Complex; Academician Yu. Kakhk, secretary of the Estonian SSR Academy of Sciences Social Sciences Department; P. Kenkmann, secretary of the Tartu State University party committee; N. Ivanov, deputy chief of the Estonian Maritime Shipping Company; Yu. Kraft, Estonian minister and first deputy chairman of the Estonian SSR State Committee for Industry; and L. Annus, chief editor of the journal KOMMUNIST ESTONII.

T. Laak, first secretary of the Tartu Gorkom; L. Annus, chief editor of the journal KOMMUNIST ESTONII; and K. Pey, first secretary of the Pyarnu party gorkom were also nominated as candidates.

Comrade Vyalyas told the plenum that K. Pey, absent from the plenum for a valid reason, had asked him to convey her refusal to accept in the event of her nomination. T. Laak and L. Annus also refused to accept their nomination. The plenum honored their requests.

M. Titma answered questions from those present and indicated the need to be guided by realism in political work. At present, the views of the Estonian-speaking and Russian-speaking population in the republic do not always coincide with regard to restructuring. Everything possible must be done to consolidate forces. The party must act as a united force in the solution of the tasks facing the republic.

By a majority vote, M. Titma was coopted into the Estonian Communist Party Central Committee (96 for, 17 against) and elected secretary of the Estonian Communist Party Central Committee and member of the Estonian Communist Party Central Committee Bureau (97 for, 16 against).

With this point the plenum concluded its work.

Ryzhkov, Zaykov Tour Moscow Plants

PM0501111689 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 4 Jan 89 Second Edition p 2

[TASS report: "Muscovites Working for Restructuring"]

[Text] This year intensive labor lies ahead for Muscovites, as for all Soviet people. It is necessary to channel the efforts of the capital's party organizations and labor collectives into deepening the positive trends that have taken shape and to back up the concrete results of restructuring with new efforts in all spheres of the national economy.

This was stressed in businesslike, constructive conversations with workers, engineers, and designers during a visit by Comrades N.I. Ryzhkov and L.N. Zaykov to a number of industrial enterprises in the capital's Lyublinskiy Rayon.

The collective of the Moscow Oil Refinery recently celebrated its 50th anniversary. It overfulfilled in all indicators the targets for 1988 and the plan for the first 3 years of the 5-year plan, and successfully met contract delivery commitments. This stability is based on economic accountability, which operates at the intraplant level too. Productive labor is making it possible actively to resolve social questions and questions of the collective's daily life.

A radical modernization and retooling of production is in full swing. The comprehensive plant program "Progress-95" provides for a considerably more comprehensive processing of oil, a radical improvement of the ecological situation, the creation of an automated system

for control of the enterprise, and an increase in consumer goods production. The implementation of the measures planned will make it possible to increase labor productivity by 26.6 percent.

There are problems too: Through the fault of USSR Ministry of the Chemical Industry organizations, the expansion of polypropylene production is under threat of disruption, plans for increasing the volume of construction and installation work are not being fulfilled, and the collective has no interest in increasing exports, because it does not receive currency deductions from exports. These matters were the subject of detailed discussion with specialists.

One of the main suppliers of spare parts and components for rolling stock and track equipment for the railroads is the Lyublinskiy Order of Lenin Foundry and Machine Plant. The 5,000-strong collective is meeting its plan targets, and all the shops and subunits operate on the principles of intraplant economic accountability.

The multishift system and difficult, harmful working conditions are the main reason for the plant's cadre problems. It was stressed that the key to resolving them is the drawing up of a general plan for a radical modernization of the enterprise and for the removal of a number of nonspecialized and harmful production units from the capital. In the course of the first phase of modernization, which is now nearing completion, auxiliary shops will be updated and work to improve the ecological situation will take place. The foundry is to be reequipped by 1995, and R70 million has been allocated for this purpose. Plans for modernization, the introduction of progressive technologies, and the organization of export production were analyzed in detail. The updating of the shops should be combined with priority work to improve working and living conditions for the plant workers, including an increase in the pace of housing construction. Particular mention was made of the impermissibility of the existing situation, whereby wages are growing faster than labor productivity. The end results of the collective's work should form the basis of the distribution of material benefits.

Questions of accelerating scientific and technical progress and improving the economic indicators of work were central at meetings with the Communists and workers of the Lenin Komsomol Motor Vehicle Plant—the leading enterprise of the "Moskvich" production association.

The enterprise has been in turmoil in recent years: The production of the new model, the "Moskvich-2141," was started up later than scheduled, and the 1988 production plan was not met. The reasons lie first and foremost in delays in deliveries and installation of equipment by the USSR Ministry of Machine Tool and Tool Building Industry and a number of foreign partners. Moreover the Lenin Komsomol Motor Vehicle Plant administration lost sight of questions of training specialists for new production units.

The planned program for the radical modernization of the plant with the aim of introducing flexible mass production technology is also under threat of disruption. The new model cannot be called promising because it is inferior to similar foreign models in terms of performance, speed characteristics, and fuel economy.

The enterprise' serious technical problems affect its economic position. Return on capital is falling, and the sum of penalty payments is increasing. The shortage of unskilled cadres and manpower turnover have become chronic. Even the attentiveness toward resolving social problems and problems of daily life, which has been stepped up in recent years, has not helped.

A way out of this complex situation can only be found through the efforts of the Communists and the entire collective. The association needs active assistance in organizing the production of a new motor from the USSR Ministry of Automotive and Agricultural Machine Building and other central departments. The former glory of the plant's name, on the world market as well, must be restored through common labor.

At Lyublinskiy CPSU Raykom N.I. Ryzhkov and L.N. Zaykov had a meeting with the rayon's party and economic aktiv and the delegates to the forthcoming city report and election party conference. During the meeting it was stressed that radical economic reform, the further democratization of Soviet society, and the development of glasnost create all the conditions for opening up the masses' creative energy. The capital's Communists are approaching the 27th Moscow City Party Organization Conference with concrete deeds and large-scale plans. The 4th year of the 5-year plan should be marked by an acceleration of restructuring and an increase in the contribution of the city's labor collectives to the development of the motherland's national economy, and should bring real, tangible improvements in the Muscovites' daily life.

I.S. Silayev, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and USSR Ministers N.V. Lemayev, N.S. Konarev, and N.A. Pugin took part in examining the questions.

Zaykov Attends Moscow Gorkom Plenum

LD0501195589 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1725 GMT 5 Jan 89

[Text] Moscow, 5 Jan (TASS) The preparations for the 27th report-back and election conference are being completed in the Moscow party organization. Members of the gorkom and a broad party aktiv have been involved in this work. Moscow Gorkom commissions have been

created which are preparing a gorkom report-back on the basis of deep analysis of restructuring in the gorkom organization, taking account of public opinion.

The report-back theses which have been advanced by the commissions were discussed at the Moscow Gorkom plenum that took place today. Lev Zaykov, Politburo member, CPSU Central Committee secretary, and first secretary of the Moscow Gorkom, made a statement.

After a business-like and principled discussion, the Moscow Gorkom plenum approved the theses. The Moscow Gorkom bureau was instructed to complete the gorkom report-back to the 27th conference of the Moscow Gorkom, taking account of the comments and additions expressed at the plenum.

Baklanov on Sverdlovsk Party Conference
PM0501111289 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 27 Dec 88 p 1

[Interview with O.D. Baklanov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, by own correspondent V. Semenov in Sverdlovsk under the heading "We Have Gotten Our Priorities Right; CPSU Central Committee Secretary O.D. Baklanov Gives an Interview to Our Correspondent"; date not given; first and last paragraphs are editorial introduction and conclusion]

[Text] The 25th report and election party conference has been held in Sverdlovsk. O.D. Baklanov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, took part in it. Our correspondent asked Oleg Dmitriyevich to answer a few questions.

[Semenov] What is your general opinion of the work done by the Sverdlovsk Oblast report and election party conference?

[Baklanov] First of all I would like to point out that the conference correctly defined the priority areas of work by the party organization. Implementation of the decisions adopted will now depend on the consistency and persistency of the work done. People are in a militant mood. I can confidently say that the practical ideas of restructuring and renewal are finding growing support among the people of Sverdlovsk Oblast. During these last few days we have found time to visit a number of collectives in Sverdlovsk, Nizhniy Tagil, and Pervouralsk. We have had frank discussions with workers, engineers, and scientists. And the things people said in the plants and workshops have been quite fully reflected here, at the conference.

We are now following a course aimed at the social reorientation of the economy. The urgent tasks have been clearly defined: to substantially improve the country's food supply, resolve the housing problem, and speed up the market's saturation with various goods and services. These problems have become particularly acute, perhaps, for the people of Sverdlovsk Oblast. A paradoxical situation has taken shape. One of the country's most powerful industrial regions, holding second place in the RSFSR for the volume of its industrial output and continuing to increase this potential, Sverdlovsk Oblast has a neglected social sphere. The party obkom report, delivered by L. Bobykin, first secretary of the obkom, noted that in terms of the volume of paid services the oblast holds 24th place. I will also add that the oblast is 36th as far as housing is concerned, and 27th for the number of hospital beds it provides. This will not do at all. This state of affairs was given a principled, critical appraisal at the conference.

In their speeches the delegates talked a lot about unresolved food supply problems. In my view, however, they were not totally constructive: It was more a question of appealing to the higher authorities than looking for ways to increase agricultural output.

The situation in the country's agrarian sector is complex. It cannot be described as satisfactory in Sverdlovsk Oblast. The food program adopted here is not being implemented. The average annual growth rates of the basic types of agricultural output fall considerably short of those planned. To achieve the targets which the oblast has set itself in the remaining years of the 5-year plan period, the growth rates of grain, potato, and vegetable production must be 1.5-2 times higher than they are at present. Subsidiary agricultural units in the industrial sector are developing poorly. Moreover, more than half of the enterprises do not have them, and the efficiency of many is not very high. In 1987 only 3 kg of meat and less than 7 kg of milk were produced per city inhabitant.

[Semenov] Of all the questions addressed to the conference, about 80 percent were concerned with construction—particularly the construction of projects in the nonproduction sphere. How, in your view, are these problems to be resolved?

[Baklanov] First of all, I must point out that the year's plan for the commissioning of housing was fulfilled only 58 percent in the oblast in the first 11 months. So there is no real point in requesting extra money to be allocated. The oblast's Communists and leaders bear responsibility for these shortcomings in the implementation of the social plan. They must be seriously taken to task. It is they who are obliged to do everything possible by mobilizing the working people to meet this plan. The situation is even worse regarding the commissioning of hospitals and clinics. Here the plan has been fulfilled only by 25 percent. I feel that not enough is being made of local initiative in the construction sphere and that attention is not being given to forming cooperatives. Large plants with a work force of 5-10,000 people are expected to have their own construction organizations and develop the own-resources construction method. More initiative must also be shown when solving the task of increasing consumer goods output. But what is happening at present? Even such powerful enterprises as the "Uralmash" manufacture consumer goods worth only 21

kopeks per ruble of the wages fund, while the "Uralkhimmash" and the Voroshilov "Turbomotornyy Zavod" production association manufacture consumer goods worth only 17 kopeks. We cannot reconcile ourselves to this kind of output. The oblispolkom and local soviets are far from exercising all their rights or making use of their full potential.

In the course of the reports and elections more than 40 percent of the party aktiv in the oblast has been replaced. This is a big influx of new forces. It goes without saying that they will need some time to adapt. But there is no time for dawdling, nevertheless. So it is very important that the new aktiv set about the tasks of restructuring with vigor.

L. Bobykin was reelected first secretary of the Sverdlovsk CPSU Obkom at an organizational plenum.

Ukrainian Party Resolution on Interethnic Relations

LD0501202389 Moscow TASS in English 2013 GMT 5 Jan 89

[Text] Kiev January 5 TASS—The Central Committee of the Ukrainian Communist Party has passed a resolution on inter-ethnic relations in the Soviet Ukraine.

In 1987 and 1988, the Central Committee already pointed to some drawbacks which had narrowed the sphere of application of the Ukrainian language, despite a package of measures taken to correct the situation, the need to improve inter-ethnic relations in the Ukraine remains.

The resolution says that the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet is drawing up the drafts on legal guarantees and application of the Ukrainian, Russian and other languages spoken in the republic. More than 200 schools and 130 kindergartens where the instruction and education is in Ukrainian have been opened over the past two years. School curriculums give more time to studying national languages and literature.

Much is done to meet the interests and needs of other ethnic groups living in the Ukraine. Their representatives are elected to governing bodies. More than 450 faculties have been opened at schools and higher educational establishments to study Bulgarian, Hungarian, Polish, New Greek, the language of Crimean Tatars and other ethnic groups. The Crimean Tatar-Russian, Bulgarian-Ukrainian and Czech-Ukrainian dictionaries have been published. Some regions in the Ukraine have started radio programmes in the Bulgarian, New Greek, Moldavian and Hungarian languges.

A newspaper in the Language of Crimean Tatars is to be published shortly, and a society of Jewish culture has been set up.

The Central Committee of the Ukrainian Communist Party has approved measures aimed at broadening the sphere of functioning of the Ukrainian language and harmonious parallel development of the Ukrainian and Russian languages.

Ukrainian Native Language Society Planned

AU0501155589 Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY in Russian 28 Dec 88 p 2

[Unattributed report: "A Native-Language Society To Be Founded in Kiev"]

[Text] A republic-level conference of societies, clubs, and circles integrating admirers of the native language was held in Kiev recently to examine issues concerning the founding of a republic-level Taras Shevchenko Native-Language Society. It will integrate all basic cells existing in the republic into one organization, and will establish constant contacts with friends of and experts in Ukrainian culture abroad.

The conference participants discussed the main clauses of the society's draft statutes. The speakers noted that the organization of native-language societies in the field had met with support and interest.

It was noted at the conference that the society would back the idea of ratifying the legal status of Ukrainian as an official language and would contribute toward expanding the sphere of its usage and toward developing other national languages in the republic. The society will endeavor to expand the network of its basic organizations and its membership.

The society will be organized at its constituent conference on 28 January 1989. Representatives of all national and ethnic groups living in the Ukraine have been invited to participate in the constituent conference.

An organizational committee was elected to prepare the conference. The committee's members are: writers Oles Gonchar, Dmitro Pavlychko, Boris Oleynik, Ivan Drach, Lina Kostenko, Yuriy Mushketik, Valeriy Shevchuk, Ivan Dzyuba, and Sergey Plachinda; A.V. Chebykin, chairman of the board of the Kiev organization of the Ukrainian Artists Union; V.Ya. Brovchenko, chairman of the "Ukraina" Society; prominent scientists, linguists, cultural figures, teachers, and party officials.

Shcherbitskiy Addresses 22 Dec Kiev Gorkom

AU0501143189 Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY in Russian 25 Dec 88 pp 1-2

[Speech delivered by V.V. Shcherbitskiy, CPSU Central Committee Politburo member and Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee first secretary, at the 23 December conference of the Kiev Gorkom]

[Text] Comrades: I think, I express the general opinion by saying that our conference—both in its content and in critical, business-like spirit—reflects the deep changes

taking place in the party and the country. In the accountability report and in the speeches by the delegates, an exacting analysis of the work was supplemented by concrete proposals to deepen restructuring. This was a correct, party-like approach. To reveal shortcomings is just one side of the coin. The second and the main one is to find common ways and means to improve the situation. This is at present particularly important.

The period in which we live is complex and highly responsible. As Comrade M.S. Gorbachev emphasized at the recent session of the USSR Supreme Soviet, it is the business, the new organization of life that has now come to the foreground. Who else if not the capital city party organization with its great intellectual, cadre, and economic potential should set the tone for the renewal at all spheres of the republic's life.

In assessing the gorkom's activity in the period under review as a whole, we have every reason to note that the gorkom has been persistently carrying out many-sided work to implement the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress and the 19th all-union party conference, and that things have undoubtedly been moving in the needed direction. A powerful impulse to invigorate the efforts of the city party organization was given by the decision adopted by CPSU Central Committee on Kiev Gorkom's report. It was very good that the comrade speakers were comparing what had been done with the decision's principled assessments, conclusions, and requirements. Allow me to express from this point of view a number of ideas regarding issues that seem to be the most important and topical.

The further progress in restructuring all spheres of the city's life will be determined first of all by the results of the gorkom's endeavoring to renew the style, forms, and methods of its work, and to become an organ of authentic political leadership.

No doubt, in recent times the gorkom, its bureau and secretaries have been looking for new attitudes toward accomplishing the outstanding tasks, and have been aspiring to act in a creative way. At present, the gorkom more firmly relies on raykoms, does not dwell on trivialities, and listens to opinions "from below." At the same time its attitude toward cadres has become more demanding. Gorkom secretaries and bureau members more frequently meet with and speak frankly to party aktivists, the Communists.

However, the gorkom has not managed to significantly raise the effectiveness of organizational work. Its functionaries still frequently tend to apply administrative pressure, and to substitute for administrative and economic organs.

This is to a significant extent explainable by the fact that the gorispolkom, the city's economic planning and economic organs, still have not taken over functions which used to be performed by the gorkom's abolished branch sections. At a gorkom plenum last year I had to criticize the gorkom for having excessively centralized the settlement of problems of vital importance for the city, and for having virtually deprived rayispolkoms of their rights. In approving the general plan for the city's national economic management, members of the Central Committee Politburo again called Comrade V.A. Zgurskiy's attention to the need to give rayispolkoms more independence. However, the situation has not changed substantially. The gorispolkom is very reluctant to share power, although it is simply unable to cope with many things. This issue has to be closely examined, and both commissions and obligations have to be correctly distributed at the city and the rayon level.

The gorkom faces the pressing need to speed up the process of renewing and improving the quality of the gorkom and raykom apparatus, of gorkom and raykom commissions; to more rapidly master political methods of leadership and new attitudes; to be more enterprising and to obtain concrete results in organizational and ideological work. The party apparatus must possess more specialists in their fields, analysts, and good organizers. These are precisely the people of whom we are presently still short. It is also essential to further increase the role of basic party organizations, to improve the selection and distribution of cadres, to increase their responsibility for the matter at hand, and to augment the part of every Communist in restructuring.

The enrollment in the party, diminished here and there, particularly among the workers, is disturbing. This phenomenon can be easily observed in party organizations that have lost prestige among the working people. This is why it is highly important for every party organization to get down, as they say, in earnest to one or several socially useful undertakings (for example, the mechanization of labor-consuming processes, the construction of a kindergarten, the reconstruction of a stadium, and so forth) in which people are interested, and to accomplish them well. In other words, it is important to work properly for people, and they will properly recognize it. This is precisely the field in which we are expected to manifest in practice unity between word and deed, instead of flirting with the masses as is, unfortunately, still the case.

We have to take into account, comrades, that the deepening process of democratization involves ever new circles of the population in active political life. However, it would be wrong to overlook the fact that this process is developing in a complex manner. In particular, the public, especially the creative intelligentsia, is discussing problems in a lively way concerning the functioning of the Ukrainian language in various spheres of public life, the elimination of the so-called "blank spots" in the historical heritage, the protection of cultural monuments, technical reequipment, and the rational utilization of nature.

It goes without saying that in this respect a differentiated attitude is necessary. For example, "informal" associations that bring these problems forward—for the most

part, correctly, although they frequently do not take into account time, new technologies, and big funds needed to settle them—are one thing. However, the handful of little groups that try to make use of glasnost and of the public tribune to spread alien ideas of national selfishness and even of anti-Sovietism, are something different. This obligates party organizations to firmly hold in their hands the political initiative in settling the accumulated problems, and to foresee the consequences of the decisions made.

The Central Committee and party committees have drawn up a consistent and clear line regarding all these problems. We are deeply convinced that no matter how acute these problems are, they can and should be settled in the framework of restructuring, by the methods of democratic discussion and of elaborating the accorded positions. It is highly important to evade inflated passions and emotional outbursts, to preserve a constructive attitude, and to steer the activity of people, including that of "informal" associations, toward practical deeds. Anti-social, anti-restructuring elements must under no circumstances be allowed to use our slogans of renewal for their ignoble purposes.

Both in the republic as a whole and in Kiev, a great deal has been done to mollify tension at some, let me say frankly, sore spots. And in settling all problems, we must continue to proceed from the point that the full blossoming of our own and other republics is only possible on the basis of strengthening our union multinational state, unity and friendship among our country's peoples. It is essential to learn to conduct ideological and political work, as they say, on the run, under the conditions of democratization and glasnost; to mix with people, and to work among them; to persuade, to show, and to explain.

This particularly applies to work among young people. Constant studies and generalization are particularly needed to efficiently and practically settle youth problems, and to further encourage the socially important initiatives of the Komsomols and young people.

The Leninist requirement to understand the masses, to be able to assume a proper approach and to win their absolute confidence is at present particularly topical.

Serious complaints were raised at the conference about the gorkom's ideological subunits. Indeed, in this sector restructuring has got stuck, although a passive, expectant position in such an important field is at present particularly inadmissible. In this field, everyone is expected to act as an active political fighter of the party for settling practical tasks set for restructuring. After all, people judge the progress made in it from real changes in their everyday lives: are there more foodstuffs, clothing, and footwear in stores, has their quality improved, is it easier to get an appointment with a physician, are there any improvements in housing and working conditions?

In recent times, the gorkom, administrative and economic organs have undoubtedly paid more attention to problems on which the social disposition of the inhabitants of Kiev depends. However, we all would like these positive changes to be more appreciable.

Let me take just one problem: food supplies.

In this respect, assistance given to the city is sizable, and Kiev is being supplied, let us be frank, better than other cities in the republic. Apparently, this generates, to some extent, a free-ride mentality. For example, each year in the summer-fall season the city manages to improve trade in vegetables and fruit only after a serious intervention on the part of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee. Insufficient use has been made of the existing possibilities to more fully meet the needs for food by enhancing patronage assistance to farms on the basis of agreements, by encouraging subsidiary farms, fruit and vegetable growing societies, and by expanding cooperative trade. It is also necessary to give more practical assistance in reconstructing food industry enterprises. This issue was discussed at the most recent plenum of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee.

Kiev enterprises fall short of orders placed by trade for sour milk products, fine baked goods, cakes, gingerbread, kissel, and a number of other locally made articles. This notwithstanding, the output of the aforesaid commodities planned for 1989 has fallen below the level that has been achieved, and a number of city enterprises use any pretext to reduce the assortment of goods. Of course, this situation calls for urgent steps, primarily on the part of the city authorities.

With a direct participation of the republic's Council of Ministers, Gosplan, State Agro-Industrial Committee, and other organizations, a comprehensive program has been worked out to radically improve food supplies in Kiev city and Oblast. Provisions have been made in particular for building 2 dairies, 2 meat processing combines, and other food industry facilities. However, nothing has thus far been done in practice.

As early as last June, the gorkom bureau approved a number of measures to provide the city population with basic foodstuffs in the next 3 years. This issue had to be discussed at a routine session of the city soviet in order to engage city enterprises in the planned measures. However, this has thus far not been done. Certainly, Comrades V.A. Zgurskiy and V.G. Salnikov bear direct responsibility for this, but neither has there been the appropriate control over the undertaking on the part of the gorkom and of Comrade S.M. Martynyuk, its second secretary.

The shortage in the city of non-food goods is also acute, and this has already been noted at this conference. There are many shortcomings in the performance of trade, public catering, and consumer service enterprises. More

than 300 complaints about these questions have been filed since the beginning of this year in the Central Committee alone. The workers' control could have its say in this respect, but the city trade unions council (under Comrade L.N. Yakovleva) moves very slowly.

Consequently, both the gorkom and the gorispolkom should pay more attention to everything that has been planned to develop the social infrastructure, bearing in mind that control primarily implies the organization of the undertaking.

Neither must we keep silent about a problem as acute as housing provision. In the report, it was noted that in the current year the waiting list for apartments has, even if only a little, for the first time shrunk (by 2 percent, an equivalent of 3,600 families). However, this is obviously not enough. In addition, even if the plans for housing construction were fulfilled, the rate at which the commissioning of houses has deteriorated. Nearly 50 percent of all houses scheduled for commissioning in the current year have to be put into service in the fourth quarter. This signifies the repeated engagement of unskilled workers brought from enterprises, a last-minute rush and, consequently, poor quality. There are also many shortcomings in organizing the reconstruction of old housing resources. In many cases, it takes years to remove tenants and to repair houses. Problems concerning services and amenities in residential and recreation areas, and the construction of sports grounds are also being settled inadequately.

Or let us take the following question. Some time ago, the inhabitants of Kiev backed the slogan: "Let our children have the best!" It has to be admitted that a great deal has been done. However, in this respect the efforts have been uncoordinated and have fallen short of a comprehensive settlement of the problem. The material base of schools lags behind the present-day requirements. Less than 33 percent of preschool establishments have their own sports halls, and only 18 percent (the share half as large as, for example, in Kharkov) have their swimming pools. Apparently, it is time to create in Kiev a modern children's park that would be for children a popular place for recreation and would contribute toward their comprehensive spiritual, intellectual, and physical development. This has been said repeatedly, but things have not moved.

In brief, comrades, there are still many social problems in the city, and they have to be settled much more energetically and together with enterprise collectives.

Comrades, all questions connected with overcoming the effects of the natural disaster in the Armenian SSR are also to be thoroughly considered at the city level. From the press reports you know how enormous and thorough is the assistance given the fraternal republic by the entire country, including the Ukrainian people. This has once again shown the unity and friendship among our country's peoples and has shown their genuine internationalism.

It is now necessary to change over to the next stage—to restore within 2 years everything that has been devastated. Our republic faces a large volume of construction work. For this purpose we will have to mobilize big forces—the best designers, builders, and equipment. We will also have to cut somewhat short the volumes of our own construction, primarily at the expense of administrative and some production facilities, but not to the detriment of the development of the social sphere.

Comrades, it goes without saying that the situation in the economy is decisive for accomplishing tasks set for the social sphere, for increasing people's prosperity. In summing up the results of the current year and the 3 years of the 5-year period, it is to be noted that we have for the most part managed to overcome negative trends in the national economy of the republic and of the country as a whole. And it is important to emphasize that this has been achieved primarily through intensive factors. As noted in the accountability report and in the speeches by the delegates, this has also been confirmed by the economic situation in the city.

However, comrades, it is obviously still too early to consider that cardinal changes have already been achieved. Just look for yourselves: industrial enterprises regularly fall short of their contractual obligations. The gap incurred in the 2 years and 11 months in the contracted delivery of goods reached the value of R125 million. This throws the performance of subcontractors into disarray and is very detrimental to restructuring. The shortfalls incurred by the "Ukrplastik" production association and the motor cycles plant are particularly big.

In its decision, the CPSU Central Committee noted that Kiev plants had been losing the positions previously won as regards quality and innovation in respect of manufactured goods. Unfortunately, this severe conclusion is also true at present. And it has to be admitted that the struggle for the reputation of the Kiev trade mark has thus far not been waged. What has been said today did not show clearly, for example, if Kiev enterprises intend—and if so, when precisely—to win the quality marks for articles as much in demand as television sets, tape recorders, radio receivers, and motor cycles?

We have the right to expect from party organizations that they be more persistent in their efforts to intensify the policy of economy. City industries have thus far not coped with the task set by the 27th Ukrainian Communist Party Congress: To make the resources that are saved cover 75-80 percent of the increase in the need for resources. In the 2 years of the 5-year period, the additional needs for rolled ferrous stock and timber were covered only 40 percent by saved resources, and in the current year the situation has not improved. In this respect, Kiev industries are even below the republic's average indexes.

It is quite obvious that problems concerning the quality of products and the economy of resources cannot be radically settled without accelerating scientific-technological progress. At a time, a great deal has been done in this direction by Kiev Gorkom's council for promoting scientific-technological progress, and by its commissions. The elaboration of special-purpose scientific-technical programs helped accomplish a number of tasks. However, in recent times the gorkom bureau, and primarily Comrade N.N. Sergeyev, gorkom secretary, as well as party organizations at enterprises, have significantly slackened their efforts to accelerate scientific-technological progress. As a result of this, the city has fallen short of the plans for promoting science and technology, and of the targets for reducing the number of workers engaged in manual labor.

In the past, our main trouble lay in the fact that the mechanism of economic outlays pulled enterprises in the opposite direction, without arousing among manufacturers any interest either in technical innovations or in obtaining some profits. The radical economic reform gives enterprises and their labor collective councils incentives to apply scientific and technological achievements. But we must not sit with our arms crossed and wait for the time when the reform will work by itself. A question concerning our development that is as decisive as scientific-technological progress must not be left to drift.

In a number of Soviet cities, enterprising people have already concretely set about applying new forms of work. Not so long ago the press reported about special funds created there to finance scientific research and planning work, about plants built to supply technological equipment for enterprises, and so forth. Also we must intensify our efforts to strengthen the economic base of scientific-technological programs, must create appropriate funds and enterprise associations for this purpose, and must combine their means and potentials to accomplish common tasks.

Besides, I would like to speak about the shaping of programs aimed at a breakthrough in some sectors. Kiev scientists and manufacturers are, for example, already able to develop a number of articles capable of competing with foreign firms in the world market. These could be, for example, a multifunctional digital radio receiver, a camera with a magnetic recording disc, a small-size television receiver, or a personal computer. There are people for this purpose, and there are stocks. The only thing that is lacking is an organizational mechanism that would allow this kind of task to be accomplished. The matter deserves serious consideration. And it has to be dealt with seriously. As you know, one cannot get anything without putting in a little elbow grease.

If we pose the question more widely: why are the possibilities inherent in the new management system a long way from being used to their full extent, the answer is unequivocal—because some economic cadres are unprepared and stick to the old work methods.

But what about the gorkom and raykoms? Why do they not correct economic functionaries?

The thing is that many party committees also seem to consider, as before, that their only task is to present requirements and to issue instruction. Decisions adopted by the gorkom and some raykoms are full of the usual stereotypes: "to find the work unsatisfactory," "to strictly warn," "to demand," and so forth. Is it not obvious that these methods have become obsolete and that they must be firmly given up?

What matters most now is to notice and to encourage what is new, and to spread the best experience. And such experience is available in the city. It is only essential to act vigorously and purposefully, to consolidate positive trends, to advance further, and not to allow collectives to get stuck halfway or even at the very beginning of an undertaking.

It must be admitted that responsibility for the existing shortcomings, particularly in the social sphere, must be borne not only by the city authorities, but also by the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee and the republic's government. The republic's Council of Ministers, Gosplan, ministries, and departments have vigorously set about drawing up various plans and measures to settle numerous city problems, but are not properly attending to the implementation of these plans. The assistance given by the republic's organs to the capital city in settling outstanding problems should be more palpable. It should be borne in mind that the situation in the capital city is to a great extent decisive for the political stability and disposition of the entire republic.

Shortcomings in our work could have been fewer if at all levels, from the top to the bottom, we learned our lessons from the past, if we kept a closer eye on developments, and looked more constantly and farther into the future. This is particularly important at present when the concept of socioeconomic development up to the year 2005 is taking shape. Comrades: The accountability and election campaign in the republic's party organizations is drawing to an end. More than 280,000 meetings and more than 720 rayon, city, and oblast conferences have been held. An analysis of these meetings and of the entire accountability and election campaign gives grounds to assert that, since the 19th all-union party conference, the activity of the Communists has significantly intensified, exactingness and efficiency have increased, and the atmosphere of openness, of a free exchange of opinions, of criticism and self-criticism is gaining a firm hold. The accountability and election campaign has produced many materials for conclusions and for drawing up measures to accelerate our progress. And it is our duty, in compliance with the Leninist directive, to use these measures as steps in our advance. But for this purpose it is essential for each party member to see to what extent his or her acts and behavior meet the requirements of the times.

Every Communist must now constantly confirm the clarity of his or her position and manifest firmness in the pursuit of the party line. This is the guarantee of our successful progress, the guarantee of the success of the entire cause of restructuring.

Four Youths Arrested Over Leningrad Explosions

LD0501205589 Moscow TASS in English 2043 GMT 5 Jan 89

[Text] Leningrad January 5 TASS—The investigation conducted by the Leningrad militia into three explosion incidents on the eve of the New Year in city streets, yielded first results. Four young people aged 21-22 were detained. They confessed to engineering an explosion in Primorskiy Avenue. A criminal case was instituted against demobbed sailor Ivan Balabanovich, special secondary school student Alexev Tverdokhlebov, radio installer Valentin Pelevin and University student Leonid Gusev. They are charged with malicious hooliganism. The charge, depending on the results of an examination, can be formulated as hooliganism with the use of firearms or explosives.

The young people were "merrily" celebrating the holiday: They fastened a metal cylinder filled with explosives to a lamp post. The blast bent the post and shattered window glasses in the nearby houses. Luckily, nobody was injured.

The same night an unidentified man hurled an explosive device at people in a downtown area. It exploded in front of worker Valeriy Shadrin, 40, who went for a walk with his 12-year-old son. The father lost both shins. Viktor Yegorshin, head of the Leningrad criminal investigation division, told TASS that hundreds of people were questioned during the investigation. A video clip with scenes of holiday-making crowds, which was accidentally shot by a film fan at a time of the explosion, was shown twice on television. Over 200 witnesses made an identikit of the criminal—a young fair-haired man. There are suspects but investigators have not tracked down a real culprit yet.

Masterminds of an explosion in Dvortsovaya square have not been found either. Window glasses were shattered in a house as a result of the blast.

Militia believes that these incidents are not related.

Resolution on Activity of Cooperatives Considered

AUCCTU Aide Interview

PM0501122389 Moscow TRUD in Russian 4 Jan 89 p 1

[Interview with A.S. Tarasenko, deputy chief of the AUCCTU Social Development Data Tabulation Department, by correspondent A. Dyachenko under the rubric "Topical Subject": "Not Just Any Cooperatives Are Needed..."; date, place not given]

[Text] The USSR Council of Ministers resolution "On Regulating Individual Kinds of Cooperative Activity in Accordance with the USSR Law 'On Cooperatives in the USSR'" was published 30 December 1988. TRUD correspondent A. Dyachenko asked A.S. Tarasenko, deputy chief of the AUCCTU Social Development Data Tabulation Department, to comment on this document.

[Dyachenko] As is known, the law "On Cooperatives in the USSR" came into force 1 July 1988. Not even 6 months have passed, but a new decision on questions of cooperatives has been adopted. What has brought this about?

[Tarasenko] The trade unions were involved in drawing up this document. From what did we proceed?

When the draft law "On Cooperatives in the USSR" was being discussed, it was not yet clear which paths the development of cooperatives would take and at what pace. Judge for yourself. Whereas at the beginning of the year, when everyone had heard of probably just one cooperative—the one situated in Moscow's Kropotkin Street—only 14,000 cooperatives existed in all, their numbers had increased to 48,000 by 1 October 1988. The cooperatives employed 770,000 people, who produced output worth R2.6 billion in the space of 9 months.

The problem, however, is that certain cooperatives have succumbed to the euphoria of all-permissiveness. They have begun gearing themselves to instant and big profits, thereby frequently harming both their customers and society as a whole. Naturally, this cannot be tolerated.

[Dyachenko] As for the ban on setting up cooperatives to produce weapons or ammunition and on organizing gaming houses, there is no need to comment on this. But how do you explain the bans prohibiting cooperatives from engaging in publishing activity or producing and restoring icons and the restrictions on organizing and holding concerts and discotheques for payment and on giving medical aid?

[Tarasenko] I will stipulate at once: The trade unions were involved in examining mainly only those kinds of activity associated with a risk to life or health and also with the possible infringement of customers' material interests. Naturally, they also did not overlook the interests of the cooperative members themselves, for they too are trade union members. Therefore, in my view, the adopted document must not be regarded as a measure designed to "squeeze" the cooperative movement. We take a clear stand on this question: Cooperatives must be developed comprehensively, but without allowing excesses.

The trade unions follow this principle too. Thus, the AUCCTU took a constructive approach to the question of taxation on cooperatives, and the levying of economically unsubstantiated taxes on them has been suspended. Therefore I would like to emphasize that this

resolution is protective rather than proscriptive. Its purpose is to protect society from all socially, ideologically, and morally dangerous activities by cooperatives.

Today almost one cooperative in every 10 is employed in the public catering sphere but, unfortunately, there are still frequent instances of cooperative members violating elementary sanitary norms. For example, high bacterial contamination of crockery, kitchen appliances, and personnel clothing was revealed in 10 out of 11 Tbilisi cooperatives investigated by people's control organs. Because of bacterial contamination in meat products and beverages produced by the "Dubrava" cooperative in Leningrad 13 customers contracted intestinal infections. After eating ice cream produced by a cooperative cafe in Gorkiy Oblast's Gorodetskiy Rayon Consumer Society, 73 people were hospitalized.

[Dyachenko] Unfortunately, similar cases are encountered not only in cooperative public catering.

[Tarasenko] You are right. But we are now discussing cooperatives, and we hope that there will be considerably fewer violations after the adopted decisions are implemented.

There is a lot of talk now also about cooperative medicine. In this sphere, as in no other, fulfillment of the commandment "Do no harm!" must be ensured. This is why the list of prohibited kinds of activity includes the rendering of medical aid to cancer patients and treatment of infectious diseases. Mistakes made here as a consequence, for example, of cooperative members' inadequate qualifications could have irreparable social consequences. The task of the adopted decision, I repeat, is not only to prohibit but also to prevent negative facts and to protect people.

[Dyachenko] Has any account been taken of the interests of cooperatives which have to reprofile their activity?

[Tarasenko] There are very few cooperatives directly affected by restrictions—less than 1 percent. The majority of them have been granted the right (if this is not at variance with this resolution) to conclude contracts with enterprises, organizations, and establishments for which these are the basic kinds of activity. I believe that this measure will rid the cooperative members themselves of many problems. For example, of the need to seek sources for obtaining raw materials and equipment.

A final point: This USSR Council of Ministers resolution in no way infringes the economic interests of cooperative members. Economic methods must be used to combat the trend toward higher prices for cooperative products and the emergence of "monopolist" cooperatives in individual cases.

Cooperatives fit naturally and organically within the system of our economy. There is a serious attitude toward them, and so the same demands are made on them as on state enterprises. It seems that the matter will not be confined to the resolution under consideration. The comprehensive development of the new form of management will undoubtedly require some amplifications and amendments in the future. It cannot be ruled out that a number of the adopted prohibitions may be abolished in time.

Social Bureau Aide Interview

PM0501151989 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 2 Jan 89 Morning Edition pp 1-2

[Interview with I. Prostyakov, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers Social Development Bureau, by E. Gonzalyez, under the rubric "We Talk About the Things That Everyone Is Talking About": "What Is Possible, What Is Impossible, and Why"—date and place of interview not specified; first paragraph is editorial introduction]

[Text] The USSR Council of Ministers has published a resolution regulating certain areas of cooperative activity. I. Prostyakov, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers Social Development Bureau, now comments on it in conversation with your IZVESTIYA correspondent.

[Gonzalyez] I imagine that anyone in my place would begin by asking: What prompted this resolution?

[Prostyakov] Anyone with a good memory of the Law on the Cooperative System in the USSR would not ask such a question. One of its articles said that all kinds of activity were permissible if they were not actually prohibited. Another article said that the regulation of cooperative activity falls within the competence of the USSR Council of Ministers. Therefore, this regulatory resolution was predetermined and had to appear.

[Gonzalyez] In that case another question springs to mind: Why the delay between the law and its extension, so to speak?

[Prostyakov] The problem had to be studied, and that included the study of foreign experience. But who could accurately predict the directions in which the cooperative system would develop in our country? It must be said that this process is very rapid. In the space of 1 year the number of cooperatives of the new type has leapt to 48,000 and the number of people working in them has increased almost tenfold. Cooperative members' contribution to the general kitty is becoming increasingly considerable. It is simply impossible to list the areas in which the cooperative system is developing.

[Gonzalyez] Presumably this is very good.

[Prostyakov] Of course. It is just unfortunate that it has not been possible to avoid the kind of activity which is contrary to the interests of society and the state. I am not going to repeat the resolution but I shall quote some examples.

One Moscow cooperative offers the population oil of colcothar and sea buckthorn. A test of the drugs showed that substances had been added to them as fillers which render their medicinal effect highly doubtful.

Here is an example from a different oblast: Cooperative members, operating on boats cruising along the Volga, were showing video films. Half of them proved to be contraband videos because they had not been bought by our country.

[Gonzalyez] One could probably cite examples of how state enterprises also violate the law, produce shoddy goods, in brief, operate not in the interests of society.

[Prostyakov] One could. And for that reason the regulation of cooperative activity is based not on individual examples but on general criteria. I have to note that there are quite a few factors preventing the more intensive development of the cooperative system: material support, the shortage of premises, equipment, and so on. But the most important thing, in my view, is that there are negative aspects in the cooperative system itself which infuriate people so much. There are not many of them but they are the most noticeable. From that viewpoint the proposed regulation is a boon.

[Gonzalyez] What criteria were used when fully or partially banning certain types of cooperative activity?

[Prostyakov] First let me say that we decided that cooperative members' earnings and all the economic circumstances of this whole business would be not used as criteria. Even though, I must admit, there were those who favored that approach. In the main among those who see cooperative members as competitors.

What criteria were established? First: Anything which is prohibited by the law of the land and of the union republics cannot be permitted.

[Gonzalyez] That is obvious.

[Prostyakov] Not to everyone by any means. Some cooperative members did not apply the existing bans to themselves because the laws do not mention them outright.

We felt that there was another criterion which was beyond dispute: Any activity which is a state monopoly cannot be permitted. For example, the manufacture and sale of weapons, articles made from precious metals and stones, the production of alcoholic drinks, foreign currency dealings, and so forth.

Hardly anyone will dispute that those forms of cooperative activity which could harm people's health, morals, or property should be banned or controlled. This includes such diverse activities as certain medical help, the production of medicines, household chemical goods, the production of movies and videos, and so on. Incidentally, the pirating of videos is not only prohibited in many countries but is also punishable by law.

It may be said in sum that all cooperative activity must meet one essential condition: It must not be ideologically, socially, or morally dangerous to society or individual members of society.

[Gonzalyez] But if you use the criteria listed above too many cooperatives will have to be wound up. Both those whose activity is undoubtedly impermissible and those... For example, medical assistance—it takes many forms, after all.

[Prostyakov] That is why two lists are attached to the USSR Council of Ministers resolution. You just mentioned medical assistance. Some types are indeed completely prohibited—they are listed and we are not going to repeat ourselves here. This refers to the kind of activity which, in certain circumstances, may instantly produce the worsening of a person's health. This list, by the way, is very short.

All other types of medical assistance are on the second list. Cooperatives may provide such help but only on one condition—they must work under organizations in the same field and be linked to them by contracts. Not under a plant, which will not be able to direct that activity, but under a medical research institute, a clinic, and so on.

[Gonzalyez] That means that a plant's medical center run on cooperative principles is impossible?

[Prostyakov] Why should it be? It is possible, if it has a contract with a health center.

[Gonzalyez] I think that I am beginning to get the idea: You want to make medical experts more available to the population but at the same time make the population less open to charlatans?

[Prostyakov] That's right. When applying these criteria the large number of specialists who worked on these proposals tried to show a certain flexibility. That is why they attached two lists to the resolution.

[Gonzalyez] But why is the organization of general education schools unreservedly prohibited? What was the criterion here?

[Prostyakov] The criterion of social justice. Specialists considered that school education must remain the concern of the state. It must be refined and improved, of course, but for everyone equally. It seems to us that it

would be unjust if young people began life on unequal terms—dependent on their parents' incomes. However, coaching and other forms of individual training are not banned.

You might imagine that different and possibly contradictory opinions will be expressed by the public on the restriction of publishing. But once again it must be borne in mind that it is not a blanket ban and that cooperatives of this kind are possible under a contractual link with publishing houses.

[Gonzalyez] Forgive me but from what are you trying to protect society in this way?

[Prostyakov] From consumerism in the worst sense, from pornography and the propaganda of ideas alien to socialism and harmful to our society and system. For example, there have been well known cases of the renting of videos which glorify the cult of violence. Can this really be tolerated?

So some cooperatives will have to conclude contracts with enterprises, organizations, and institutions of the appropriate type while others will have to change the nature of their work. And those who refuse to do either one or the other will be wound up.

[Gonzalyez] What about costs?

[Prostyakov] In view of the delay between the Law on the Cooperative System and this resolution the aim is to help the cooperatives that are being wound up to avoid economic losses. In some cases after a check that the expenditure was expedient compensation is possible. The appropriate instructions have been given to local soviets on implementing the resolution. But I must say that the number of cooperatives affected by the restrictions is very very small—less than 1 percent.

[Gonzalyez] Igor Ignatyevich, all government resolutions are general in character. It is afterwards, as experience shows, that the detailed work begins. Will it not be the case that after the conclusion of a contract cooperatives will be under complete control and will be forced to coordinate every step with the patron enterprise?

[Prostyakov] That is not impossible. But dependence of that kind is not part of the resolution and we should very much like to avoid it. The subsequent development of events will be monitored by a special group on cooperative activity which we want to set up in our bureau. I think the day is not far off when cooperative members will unite in a union or society which will be able to defend their interests. They will have their own banks, legal services, and possibly their own newspaper.

[Gonzalyez] But to produce that newspaper will cooperative members also have to enter into a contract with a publishing house?

[Prostyakov] A very apposite question. It gives me an opportunity to make it clear that some of the restrictions that are being introduced apply only to some cooperatives. For example, cooperatives cannot independently engage in currency dealings whereas specially created cooperative banks are allowed to with the agreement of the USSR Bank for Foreign Economic Activity.

[Gonzalyez] One last question. At the beginning you said that negative aspects in the cooperative system itself which infuriate people so much are one reason for the restrictions. However, shashlik producers, the most infuriating of all, have not been banned.

[Prostyakov] But I did say that earnings cannot be a criterion. Restrictions on that basis would be contrary to the Law on the Cooperative System. Economic abnormalities must clearly be combatted by economic methods. Which, incidentally, it is also proposed to do in the future.

Prosecutor Interview on Hijack Investigation

PM0501191589 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 3 Jan 89 Second Edition p 3

[N. Krivomazov interview with A. Katusev, USSR deputy prosecutor general, under the "Follow-Up" rubric: "Operation 'Thunder'"; date and place of interview not specified; first paragraph is editorial introduction]

[Text] How is the investigation into the Ordzhonikidze terrorists going? A. Katusev, USSR deputy prosecutor general talked about this.

[Krivomazov] This tale of the hijacking of an Il-76 M heavy transporter to Tel Aviv last December resounded throughout the world. You might have thought that there was no point in even considering a "return ticket." But, as we have changed, so have attitudes to us abroad. The norms of civilized interstate relations are increasingly being affirmed in the modern world. The turn of events whereby the criminals were extradited is as well known to as many people as the events in Odzhonikidze and Mineralnyye Vody that started it all off, which PRAVDA has already talked about. Yet letters ask questions regarding not just these terrorists specifically but air piracy itself, as a phenomenon that has hitherto cost much bloodshed and nervous trauma: "When will it all end?"

[Katusev] "Since Israel agreed to return to us without delay the bandits and, what is more, the property they had seized, including the aircraft, scarcely anyone will risk doing the same thing again," Aleksandr Filipovich said. "But another point is that the increase in scientific and technical progress is producing 20th century pirates who are more and more sophisticated and thus exposing new loopholes which we should and must foresee."

[Krivomazov] Many people are sincerely amazed that this story was not ended at its very outset: Why didn't some bold, strong men from North Osetia overpower these scum rather than submit, seemingly meekly, to their demands? On the other hand there were 30 fourth-grade schoolchildren among the hostages. Other letters argue that everything was agreed to for their sake!

[Katusev] Indeed, this tale is like something out of a Wild West movie. The main difference is that this episode ended without shooting or bloodshed. At the cost of incredible presence of mind and thought, USSR KGB, MVD, and Foreign Ministry personnel succeeded in inducing the four terrorists to compromise and return to us our main "currency"—the children. Weighing up these valuables on the scales of morality, it was not hard to guess what our feelings and actions would be. As a result, the children are alive and well and operation "Thunder" led to the anticipated, strictly gauged result.

There was no crash of "Thunder"... In particular, I would like to point out the correct steps taken at the beginning by the services in Ordzhonikidze city. They worked well and took the correct first step, just as all their other steps were correct, moreover.

[Krivomazov] Aleksandr Filippovich, we have already reported the bandits' names. But who are these people who overstepped all the boundaries of what is permissible?

[Katusev] During his initial interrogation, Yakshiyants, the leader of the terrorists, confessed to having committed the crime. This was not his first run-in with law-enforcement organs—he has three previous convictions. His group conceived several options for obtaining particularly large sums of money. Yakshiyants, with convictions for larceny, theft, and robbery, did not particularly tax himself with work; Muravlev, with two previous convictions, had not worked for 6 months; Vishnyakov is a man with no definite occupation; and Anastasov was a concrete worker but also craved money, even through criminal means. Another member of the organized gang has been discovered in the course of the investigation process—Dzhafarov, a driver, who supplied his accomplices with the weapons. From the very outset he refused to commit any further crime.

The criminals realized that they would not succeed in seizing an aircraft without young hostages. Base, mercenary people! When the money was brought to them, some threw down their weapons and began to "wallow" in the money.

The investigation is now establishing the guilt of each of the terrorists. Experienced investigators are continuing this work. We are dealing in general with a particularly dangerous criminal act.

"Nevertheless some people are saying that this entire story was staged and that an endeavor to 'build bridges' between the USSR and Israel is behind it. Few people believe this, but the radio voices are also planting such ideas.

Should one answer such gibberish? I don't know anyone who would decide to "build bridges" in such a dreadful fashion. They would hardly be lasting bridges if they were built on children's lives.

Besides, the trial will be open. We have nothing to hide. We also witnessed during this tale not only the bandits' merciless cruelty but also the openness and goodness of all those involved in freeing the children taken hostage.

The forces of good are above evil. Operation "Thunder" provides additional confirmation of this. It was "thunder" that was never heard solely thanks to the skill and training of the security forces, militiamen, pilots, and all people of good will.

Church Works To Rehabilitate Repressed Clergy

LD0501154189 Moscow TASS in English 1527 GMT 5 Jan 89

[Text] Moscow January 5 TASS—The Holy Synod of the Russian Orthodox Church has raised the issue of rehabilitating clergy and laymen repressed after the 1917 revolution and decided to form a special commission to study related material.

These problems, a TASS correspondent was told at the Moscow Patriarchate on Thursday, were discussed by the synod twice late last year—on November 30 and on December 27.

When it has its next meeting, the synod will endorse the commission which will begin working immediately.

People in this country and abroad, who are interested in the rehabilitation of repressed Russian Orthodox clergy and laymen, are invited to send any material and documents they have on the lives and activities of the repressed to the following address: Moscow Patriarchate, 5, Chisty Pereulok, Moscow.

Following requests by relatives and friends, some of the repressed have already been rehabilitated by the country's legal authorities.

Jewish Emigration in 1988 Hits Near Record Count

AU0501155089 Paris AFP in English 1544 GMT 5 Jan 89

[Text] Geneva, Jan 5 (AFP)—A total of 20,082 Jews were allowed to emigrate from the Soviet Union last year, a figure only slightly below the 1980 record of 21,470, the Intergovernmental Committee for Migration said here Thursday.

In December 1988, 3,510 Jews emigrated, with 114 settling in Israel, the ICM reported.

In all of 1988, 1,428 Jews went straight to Israel while most others emigrated to the United States, Australia, Canada, or Western European countries.

A total 8,011 Soviet Jews were granted exit visas in 1987.

Economic

Shmelev Interviewed on Economic Issues of 1989

PM0401152189 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 3 Jan 89 p 2

[Interview with economist Nikolay Shmelev by A. Korotkov: "Let Us Be Consistent"—date, place not given]

[Text] At the start of a new year we look to the future with special feelings. Can we hope that restructuring in the economy will lead to increased prosperity as early as this year? Our correspondent asked that question of the writer and economist Nikolay Shmelev.

[Shmelev] Do we have grounds for optimism? I think so, despite all the problems. The party has begun to rid itself of its day-to-day economic functions. The idea of dismantling the present ministerial system of managing the national economy has been floated. There are a growing number of advocates of industrial associations, syndicates, and concerns... This year the state order will be pegged to an average of 40 percent, and that will give a boost to rapid progress toward wholesale trade in the means of production. There is a chance that before 1989 is out we will have a substantial market and a considerable proportion of industrial output will be supplied to it. The period of hesitation over the new forms of production organization—cooperatives, the contract, and the lease—has ended. For the first time the idea of regional economic accountability has begun to be discussed and significant positive changes have been noted there. Finally, we have made specific moves toward changing our foreign economic policy. Normal conditions for the creation of joint enterprises have appeared, and the question of the convertibility of the ruble and the creation of free economic zones is now on the agenda.

However, all this is just the beginning, and the positive changes unfortunately still have not affected people's standard of living and prosperity. In my view, though, it is very important that the country's leadership firmly pledge not to infringe on the interests of honest workers under any circumstances.

Nevertheless, it must be acknowledged that some problems, including every-day problems, have become worse. No wonder; they represent payment for mistakes old and new. Unfortunately, we did not make the decision to abandon the quantitative targets of the 12th 5-Year Plan. Nor have we abandoned the principle of obligatory supplies of agricultural output, a principle which paralyzes the countryside, and only its abolition will remove the entire bureaucratic superstructure that the rural worker now bears on his shoulders.

Even under restructuring, inefficient enterprises are living at the expense of others. The anti-alcohol campaign was handled unskillfully and ineffectively and, as a result, triggered a financial mechanism. A huge deficit appeared in the budget. When we were faced with a fall in the price of oil and the need to reduce imports we made a cut not in imports of equipment, stocks of which were worth millions, but instead in a most sensitive and important area—imports of consumer goods.

I hope that in the new year we will be more consistent and resolute. Only then will we be able to provide the country with food, clothes, and shoes in the very near future—and not in a haphazard way but in full accord with "ever increasing demands." Only then will broad grassroots support for restructuring really be guaranteed.

Consumer Goods Supply for 1989 Forecast

PM0501164589 Moscow TRUD in Russian 1 Jan 89 p 2

[Article by Andrey Orlov, director of the All-Union Scientific Research Institute for the Study of Consumer Demand for Goods and the Trade Situation, under the heading "Consumer Diktat Is Needed"; first paragraph is editorial introduction]

[Text] What kind of consumer market will there be in 1989? This question is answered by Andrey Orlov, director of the All-Union Research Institute for the Study of Consumer Demand for Goods and the Trade Situation.

It is a well known fact that the best fortune-teller is the one who predicts something good. But I am an economist and my prediction will be based on realities rather than wishes.

The past year has made consumers rather bold: First laundry detergent and then sugar disappeared from the shelves, and at four in the morning crowds of people would start forming a line outside the central department store, waiting to buy color television sets....

You often heard people complain that the goods situation was worse than it had ever been. But in 1988 goods worth R2 billion were sold in excess of the plan. For the first time in many years the trade plan is being met. A paradox? The fact of the matter is that we have never had goods in abundance. The imbalance between supply and demand did not suddenly come about in 1 year—it has developed over a number of 5-year periods. In the past, for example, the state always had its "alcohol faucet": When there were not enough goods to go around it would turn on this faucet and money flowed away. As a result of the reduced sale of alcohol, budget losses since

1985 have exceeded R37 billion, while the sale of consumer goods has increased by only R12 billion during this period. This year the population's income "jumped" by 9 percent, but the production of goods increased by only 4.5-5 percent.

Then began the discussion of monetary reform and price reform, which produced a flurry of demand. People began feverishly buying up everything in sight, even old carpet and jewelry stocks. Shortages were made worse in almost 300 goods and groups of commodities. At present, the demand for 1.5 million television sets, 250-300 million pairs of shoes, 600,000 refrigerators, and 2 million tonnes of meat cannot be met.... This should be the point of departure when forecasting the market in 1989.

On the basis of a special USSR Council of Ministers resolution, in 1989-1990 industry will be geared to manufacturing goods worth R24 billion in excess of the plan. This should ease the shortages in many goods in the near future. The total retail trade turnover has been set at R385 billion (previously, the planned amount was R379 billion).

Well, if we are to be more specific, first of all the situation must be improved with regard to goods for children and elderly citizens. A number of important decisions have been made recently on this issue. Markups on wholesale prices have been introduced so that enterprises find it to their advantage to produce cheap items. Retail prices, however, will be approximately as follows: A woollen dress for an elderly woman—no higher than R45, boots must cost no more than R40....

The whole list of inexpensive items is to be monitored by the state order system this year. This is, of course, an administrative measure but in this particular situation it should "work." Incidentally, cooperatives could also manufacture inexpensive children's items if they were exempt from tax.

The situation with sugar and laundry detergent must, of course, get back to normal—these are just temporary interruptions. But the supply of dairy products is hardly likely to improve. More alcohol will appear in the stores, although in this matter everyone must show temperance.

The goods vacuum used to be filled to a certain extent by imported goods, but as a result of foreign economic difficulties (the drop in oil and gas prices) in 1988 the volume imported fell by R7.5-8 billion. In my opinion, imports should be increased in the coming year—we should look for credit, including loans from the IMF, of which we should become a member.

I have a wish I would like to express to TRUD readers. We consumers must finally get angry at the humiliating situation we are in and break the cycle—it is not we who should be dependent on the producer but he on us. The conditions for doing this are now appropriate—a consumer movement is forming. As long as it does not become bogged down in bureaucracy and is democratic—as is the case in many countries—a great deal can be changed. The tasks of consumer societies include the struggle against concealed price rises, the erosion of inexpensive goods, and false claims concerning the quality of goods produced, as well as the task of providing all possible consultative help.... In Krakow, for example, a club of this kind championed the fight for cheaper motor vehicles. It transpired that some cunning person had devised a method of raising prices by means of a mythical extra charge "for automobilization".... It goes without saying that the tone should be set by specialists in such matters.

Generally speaking, the market will largely depend on us ourselves and our work, because we are all (producers included) consumers.

Academician on Food Procurement Price Anomalies
PM0501160589 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 3 Jan 89 Morning Edition p 2

[Article by Academician M. Bronshteyn of the Estonian SSR Academy of Sciences: "Market Laws and Food Counters: Expectations and Worries"]

[Text] We all now seem to recognize the objective nature of market laws. We also recognize that order can be introduced in the market only on the basis of knowledge of its laws and their sensible application. But what about real life?

I would ask the reader to distance himself from common sense for a short while and join me in a stroll through the milk sector of the statewide market. There seem to be quite a few milk sellers. But what is happening to prices? Some sell perfectly good milk at 30-40 kopecks per liter, others at 50-60 kopecks; a young peasant woman asks 80 kopecks, an old granny trades at R1.30. The state buys from them all. Next to them we have a hale and hearty operator selling equipment to our milk sellers at a price that has gone up again today. The milk sellers shout at him in unison: "Have you no heart?" "Come off it," the operator replies, "the state will pay for everything!"

A fairy tale? No. This is a fairly accurate description of the prevailing system of state purchases of agricultural produce and the sale of means of production to the producers. As a matter of fact, I have cited purchasing prices incorporating all sorts of supplements that are in force in the milk specialization zone (the milk sector). There are perfectly "scientific" explanations for them. Low prices are applied to purchases because some "milk sellers" have learned to produce cheaper milk. High supplements are added to prices paid to those who used to bring just one can of milk to the market and now bring two milk cans (incentive for acceleration), while R1 and even more per liter is paid to the "lame and destitute," as V. Kabaidze, general director of Ivanovo's 50-Letiya

SSSR Machine Tool Building Production Association, figuratively put it at the 19th party conference. The "hale and hearty operator" (who is also lame in reality) is the producer and supplier of means of production and services for agriculture. The price the people have to pay is the devaluation of their money and lengthening waiting lines.

Underpayment and overpayment alike cancel out any incentives to boost output. Why reduce prime costs if you will be punished by a low price? Why strain yourself if the price is R1.30 per liter? Maybe the young peasant woman has an incentive to try? After all, they are paying for growth. But she realizes very quickly that you can overstrain yourself. The year before last she sold one can, this year she sells two cans, but in the future she will have to sell five cans to maintain her growth rate supplement. This is why the growth rate supplements to prices quite soon cease to encourage acceleration (and it is generally speaking difficult to rise above a level which is already high), and all they do is make output more expensive for the state. The situation that develops is absurd (and runs contrary to the law of value): In a good harvest year, when the cost per unit of agricultural output falls, there is a sharp increase in expenditures by the state to acquire this output. The opposite is also true: In a poor harvest year, when costs rise, farms are paid lower prices which sharply exacerbate their financial position. Let us note that, "fortunately" for the state budget, adverse weather conditions have prevailed for many years. But what if the elements take pity on us and we have a good harvest year? What happens then? Do we declare the state insolvent, or do we abandon state purchases?

At present, state purchases of agricultural produce exist in every developed country as an effective instrument for regulating market prices and social security. They are also necessary in our country. But the remnants of food requisitioning, which are so tenacious of life, should have been abandoned long ago. The state enters the food market and must operate according to its laws. The striving to gather all food stocks in state granaries has never yet produced enough to feed us all to satisfaction. Excessive centralization only burdens the state treasury and results in irresponsibility by local organs and swelling crosshauls of the same products (first their wholesale shipment to the center, followed by retail shipments to local destinations).

Mutually advantageous interregional commodity exchange (reduced to a minimum in our country) and local turnover are normal elements of the market. As a matter of fact, even industrial regions could start earning their keep by selling to the countryside the reliable and modern means for the production and processing of agricultural produce it so badly needs. Maybe then we will put an end to the monopoly enjoyed by our apparently "hale and hearty operator." Local organs and economic links will have more initiative and responsibility. Regional economic accountability will produce its effect. Let me note at this point that economic accountability without healthy competition can produce only one result on the market—price increases. When dealing in this market, the state must act as the thrifty steward of common funds, as a civilized buyer and seller. In order to achieve this it must purchase food wherever it is produced relatively cheaply, and at a uniform price that is advantageous to both seller and buyer.

The market's laws are harsh—there is no room for charity there. When prices are uniform, the winner is he who is efficient in economic management and applies modern technology and organization. The opposite is also true. But what happens to the "lame and destitute" then? Here I would not extend to agriculture the strong medicine that V. Kabaidze so lightly suggests. Agriculture is a special sphere of production, where natural conditions play a major role in addition to people's own efforts. Natural conditions differ and are not easy to reproduce. The Kuban alone cannot feed the country. It is also necessary to use relatively inferior land. Agriculture as a whole has a special claim on industry and the cities. The "lame and destitute" became such not of their own free will but due to the many decades of nonequivalent exchange and of the countryside's depopulation. Let us recall what rural working people said from the 19th all-union party conference rostrum: "Debts must be settled!"

But where is the money to come from? It is hardly possible to have the state endlessly footing the bill for any instance of economic mismanagement. Even the richest of societies would go bankrupt. Some funds could be obtained through rechanneling investment from industry itself and rejecting excessive urbanization. More funds would be provided by rental fees for land, whose size would depend on natural and economic fertility (we still, by the way, have to learn how to evaluate the latter). Finally, it is necessary to put an end to the usage whereby prices or fictitious credits are used to cover any expenses, including unearned wages. IZVESTIYA has repeatedly cited examples of labor remuneration being higher on neglected farms than on front-ranking ones. "When organizing the agro-industrial associations," V. Starodubtsev said, "we came up against a paradoxical situation: An unprofitable farm with 100 managers on its staff. Depending on the year's results, they used to receive up to 12 months' extra pay" (IZVESTIYA Issue No. 347, 1988). All this came from our pockets.

The cure of the "lame and destitute" must be organized according to a system (not a run-down system, of course) tried and tested by world medicine. Initially a correct diagnosis of the disease's cause by experienced physicians (independent experts in this case), is followed by a targeted and comprehensive cure using the appropriate means. Such a method has been successfully applied in, for example, the CSSR and also in our country, in the Estonian SSR's Pyarnuskiy Rayon and in Pskov Oblast's Pytalovskiy Rayon.

Finally, the most painful question. What is to happen to state retail prices for food? It is universally known that the level of prices for meat and dairy produce blatantly contradicts the law of value (2-3 times lower than social costs). I think that a growing circle of people—and not just specialists, either—are beginning to realize that the state has virtually exhausted all normal opportunities to maintain retail prices at this level. In the conditions of an overall state budget deficit, the sharply rising amounts of subsidies increase the burden on the printing press. Hence the rising inflation and commodity shortages which undermine labor incentives. I would also mention, by the way, that lease contracts will not produce their full effect (and we are justified in placing our hopes on them) and will not justify our expectations unless working people are able to buy goods for the rubles they earn.

What is to be done? The author of these lines believed even a couple of years ago that it is possible to impose order in the food market by increasing retail prices subject to full monetary compensation for the population. But normal financial opportunities for such compensation are lacking in the prevailing situation. Back again to the printing press, which will whip up the inflation spiral further still. This is why there is need for extreme caution and a gradual approach in the planned changes to the level of state retail prices for food. In any event, they ought to be accompanied by a package of measures to generally improve the health of the market and financial management. They would include cutbacks in state expenditure (this process is already under way), a buildup of the production and imports of industrial goods in high demand, utmost support for initiative and enterprise at the local level, expansion of mutually advantageous cooperation between the country's regions and between socialist countries as a whole, a more effective economic policy, and collaboration in the world market including changes in the structure of purchases of grain and other commodities.

Joint Ventures in Leningrad 'Successful'

LD0201100389 Moscow TASS in English 0910 GMT 2 Jan 89

[Text] Leningrad January 2 TASS—Leningrad joint enterprises have had their first receipts in hard currency. The expenditure of foreign firms, which supplied up-to-date equipment and technology, started to pay off.

"There are ten joint ventures in Leningrad. The most successful are the enterprises formed jointly with West German firms—Lenvest and Compan. Lenvest-made footwear and Compan's electronic programs have been received well in other countries," a TASS correspondent has been told by Gennadiy Bukin, chairman of the Leningrad Foreign Economic Commission. He praised West German industrialists' contribution to the establishment and development of new forms of Soviet economic activity. Finns and Americans are also active in Leningrad.

"We are now negotiating 40 more joint ventures, with West Germans and Finns as contractors. But there will be contractors from other countries as soon as the construction of a large international culture, recreation and entertainment centre is launched in the city. Headway is now being made with the active participation of well-known American industrialist and public figure Cyrus Eaton, Jr. Various Western firms plan to invest several thousand million dollars into the project.

TASS on Ukraine Economic Reforms, Enterprises

LD3012221988 Moscow TASS in English 2213 GMT 30 Dec 88

[Text] Kiev December 31 TASS—By TASS correspondent Yelena Savinova:

The entire Soviet economy switches to new conditions of management as of January 1, 1989. What is the essence of the present stage of the economic reform? We shall try to show this on the example of the Ukraine, the Soviet republic which has the second biggest economic potential (after Russia).

To open the way for economic methods of management which are replacing administrative ones, the Ukrainian Council of Ministers decided to decrease the volumes of the state order (the assortment which enterprises are obliged to produce) to approximately 20 per cent for 1989 and 1990. For comparison, it should be noted that this index for the whole country made up about 70 per cent in the outgoing year.

In other words, an enterprise is given the scope for initiative: it can use 80 per cent of its facilities at its own discretion and decide what products it should manufacture and to whom they should be sold.

But then many managers cannot decide if they should rejoice or grieve this freedom. The matter is that planning and supply bodies of the republic provide raw materials for enterprises so that they could fulfil state orders. And where can they get resources for production of goods on contracts?

The Ukraine, which is among the first Soviet republics to reduce the state order substantially has already accumulated the experience for resolving such problems. Bodies of the republic's State Committee for Material and Technical Supplies and Wholesale Trade in means of production and raw materials will assist enterprises. Supply bodies can find customers and conclude agreements with them on the basis of mutual advantage while wholesale trade can provide materials for these orders.

The Ukraine has already accumulated the first experience in wholesale trade: 15 per cent of the resources was distributed according to this principle in 1988. Next year the volume of wholesale trade is to reach 60 per cent, whereas it will reach 80-85 per cent by 1992.

Another thing is of importance. It was learnt from the republic's Council of Ministers that state orders for the entire volume of foodstuffs, necessities and paid services for the population are placed with enterprises. This is done to ensure that egoistic interests of separate enterprises out to get the biggest profits should not run counter to the interests of consumers. The initial experience of the economic reform has shown not only its strong points but also the inclination of factories and plants to manufacture expensive products only. Introducing state orders for consumer goods, the state protects social interests of the working people.

Military

Admiral Gromov on New Training Tasks for Navy

PM0501160089 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 3 Jan 88 First Edition p 1

[Interview with Admiral F. Gromov, commander of the Northern Fleet, by Captain 3d Rank P. Ishchenko, KRASNAYA ZVEZDA's permanent correspondent with the Northern Fleet: "Combat Training Requires Reorganization"—date, place not given; first paragraph is editorial introduction]

[Text] Captain 3d Rank P. Ishchenko, KRASNAYA ZVEZDA's permanent correspondent with the Northern Fleet, asked the commander of the Northern Fleet this question: "What does the reorientation to quality parameters in training mean for naval seamen?" Admiral F. Gromov replied:

[Gromov] The defensive military doctrine presupposes the principle of reasonable sufficiency of armed forces and armaments. On this basis, and also in light of the forthcoming considerable reduction in the Soviet Armed Forces on a unilateral basis, it is obvious that combat training requires reorganization with a view to achieving a new quality.

In this connection, in the course of planning for the new training year in our fleet, attention was focused on ensuring that combat training forms the basis of all the activity of naval forces. Without resolving this task we cannot seriously expect to ensure the attainment of quality parameters in combat readiness.

As for specific avenues of work, I would like to highlight three. First there is the further improvement of personnel training, in connection with which we must greatly increase the role and place of training at bases. So-called base exercises using comprehensive simulators will be introduced widely. These exercises will enable us to train ship combat crews and control organs better. The exercises will not be abstract in nature; they will have a very specific thrust—in line with the tasks that the ships will have to tackle on their next voyages. Ships will put to sea only when the crews have done everything necessary at base.

In the new training year unit commanding officers are to be given more opportunities for the autonomous planning and organization of the ships' combat training depending on the level of training and efficiency of the crews and the level of their fulfillment of combat training courses. As a result considerable time is gained, and this time will be used for the thorough rehearsing of those questions that are most relevant to each ship. The daily routine has been revised everywhere for the same purpose. In its present form it gives more time for studies, training sessions, and exercises than before.

It is proposed to do much to enhance the role of headquarters. They should decisively reassign their efforts from the functions of evaluation and recording to the functions of providing assistance. The effectiveness of headquarters operations will be assessed not by the number of evaluations carried out and observations made in the course of them, but by the real state of affairs in the units and on the ships. New demands are also made with regard to evaluations carried out by higher-ranking headquarters. These evaluations should not disrupt the daily routine of those under evaluation, upset their combat training plans, or divert commanding officers and specialists from their work unless it is strictly necessary. An example is set by the special groups currently being set up in the fleet, designed to monitor the fulfillment of combat exercises at sea. These groups will be headed by me and the deputy fleet commanders. They will include officers from the directorates and sections. The existence of such groups will, among other things, mean that we do not need to take people away from their on-the-spot work.

Moreover, a flagship combat crew for submarine entry into torpedo attack has been set up in the fleet. It is led by Rear Admiral V. Poroshin, deputy commander of the fleet for combat training and chief of the combat training directorate. The combat crew will rehearse tactics and train commanding officers of units and ships to carry them out.

A second area of our activity to ensure quality parameters in combat training is to improve the tactical training of ships' commanders and all personnel. Thus, considerably more bilateral exercises are planned than in former years, and both sides have an equal interest in success. This approach will doubtless lead initially to a decrease in the success rate (according to evaluations) in the fulfillment of combat training tasks. But in the end the personnel's skill will increase.

Finally, more attention will be devoted to increasing the readiness of weapons and hardware for use. The maintenance training of personnel and the prompt execution of maintenance work and repairs between voyages—that is how we hope to achieve high technical readiness of weapons and hardware.

We have every reason to suppose that the training measures planned for the new year will give the fleet a powerful boost in combat readiness and improving the quality of combat training.